THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

June 13th—19th, 1985
Volume 20, Number 23

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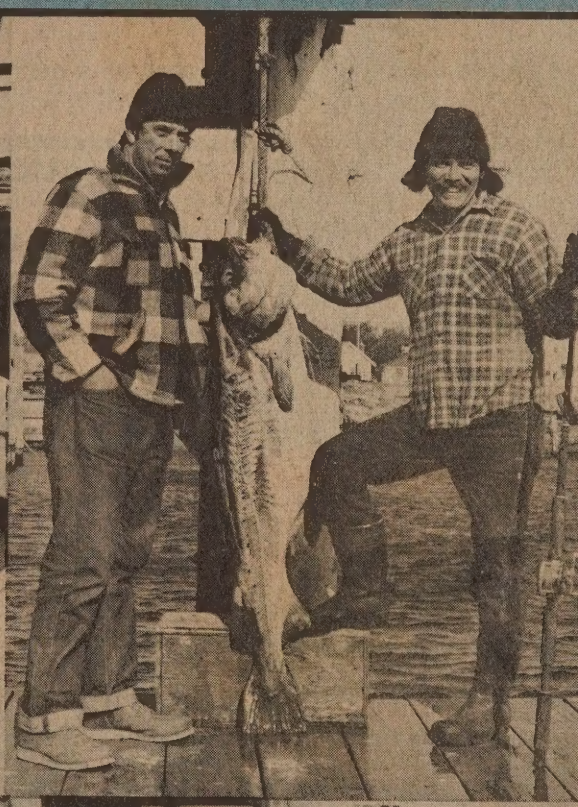

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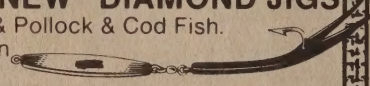

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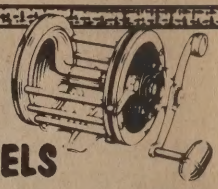

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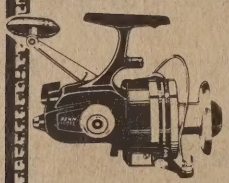

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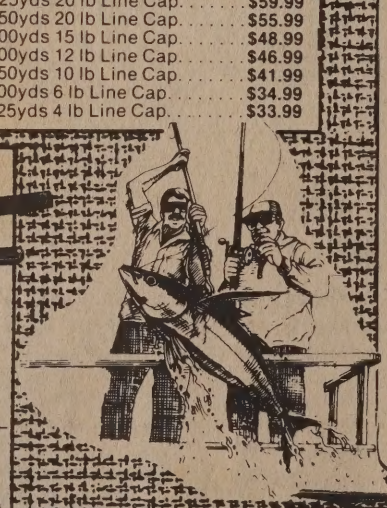

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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

Volume 20, Number 23 June 13th, 1985

FEATURES:

ATLANTIC WRECK SERIES: THE TOLTEN
by John Raguso 24

"TIN BOAT" SERENADE
by Fred Golofaro 28

EASY TAIL ROPES
by Pete Barrett 30

EGO & THE FISHERMAN
by Matt Ahern 33

THE BRONZE BRAWLER
by Angelo Peluso 36

THE LURE OF THE "FAR EAST"
by Marty & Janet Garrell 38

DOUBLE TROUBLE FLUKE RIG
by Russ Wilson 40

FISHERMAN TIPS
by Fred Guardineer 42

DEPARTMENTS:

PASS IT ON 4
CHUM LINES 12
PRODUCT REVIEW 20
THE TACKLE DOCTOR 22
FISHING REPORTS 43
TIDE & SOLUNAR TABLES 57
THE FISHERMAN'S CLASSIFIED 72

ABOUT THE COVER:

(he quartet of anglers on this week's cover have one thing in common. All are current New York State record holders in the state's record fish program. For a complete listing of salt water record holders, see page 18.

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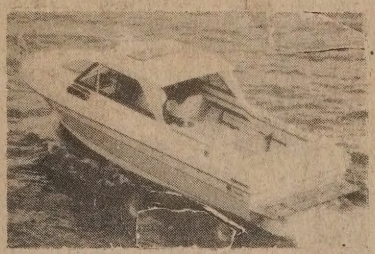

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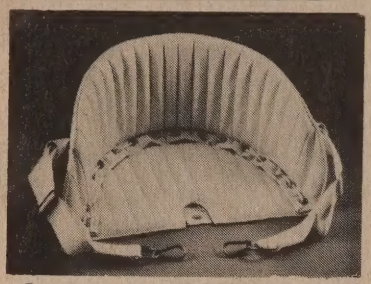

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These examinations called Courtesy Marine Examinations or "CME," are done as a courtesy for the boating public. There is no charge for a CME and if you are missing equipment or otherwise don't pass, the information goes no further than you and the examiner. If your boat does not pass the first time, we will advise you as to what is not in compliance and re-examine your boat when you correct the problem.

Boats passing the examination will be awarded a "CME" Decal. This Decal which is affixed to the boat by the Examiner attests to the fact that you have the required Federal and State equipment on board and in working order.

If you see a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary on your dock, pier or ramp, ask about a "CME," or call Captain Ted Prager on (516) 683-7292 or on non-working hours, (516) 487-4793. He will put you in touch with an Examiner in your area. Also, Flotilla 12-2 on the North Shore of Long Island will have a manned station at the boat ramp located in Steppingstone Park, Great Neck, from now through September, 1985.

MONTAUK MARINE BASIN SHARK TOURNAMENT

The Montauk Marine Basin has scheduled its 15th Annual Shark Tag Tournament to be held at Montauk on Saturday, July 13th and 14th. All anglers and fishing clubs are cordially invited to partipate. Entries to be limited to 150 boats; first come, first serve basis. Applications are now being accepted.

This year MMB is offering a total prize purse of $15,000 to the lucky anglers who land the largest sharks in various categories. We will be giving $7,500 for the largest mako (other than a world record), $5,000 for the largest overall shark, and $2,500 for the largest blue shark caught. In addition, the tournament committee has placed in escrow $10,000 to be given to the lucky angler who can land a record mako (according to IGFA standards).

In the past 14 years Montauk Marine has been host to over 2500 participating boats with approximately 15,000 anglers. Fishermen and women come from as far away as Australia to fish our tournament. Montauk is considered one of the finest fishing grounds for just about every species of shark.

As always we will be supporting Dr. Jack Casey's (National Marine Fisheries Service) tagging program. Tagging is a very important part of marine biology studies, and the scientist relies on the more than 2500 volunteer fishermen who tag and release the sharks they catch. Dr. Casey will be on hand to collect specimens from the sharks taken in the tournament to further his studies.

Entry fee per boat will be $300. For more information and an entry form call (516) 668-5900. Dock space is limited, so hurry and get your slip now!

CONSERVATION GROUPS PROTEST MOVE TO CUT NEW FISHING, BOATING FUND

A Federal government proposal to divert funds legally earmarked to enhance sport fishing and boating will "violate the law" and rob those programs of about $100 million, according to the National Wildlife Federation and 13 other conservation and fishing groups.

A new Sport Fishing and Boating Enhancement Fund (the Wallop/Breaux Fund) was signed into law in July, 1984, expanding the Dingell/Johnson Fund, to enhance boating and fishing opportunities with funds raised by user fees. Most of the fees were already being collected from the nation's boaters and fishermen by a federal excise tax on fishing equipment, federal motor boat fuel taxes and customs duties in imported watercraft and fishing tackle.

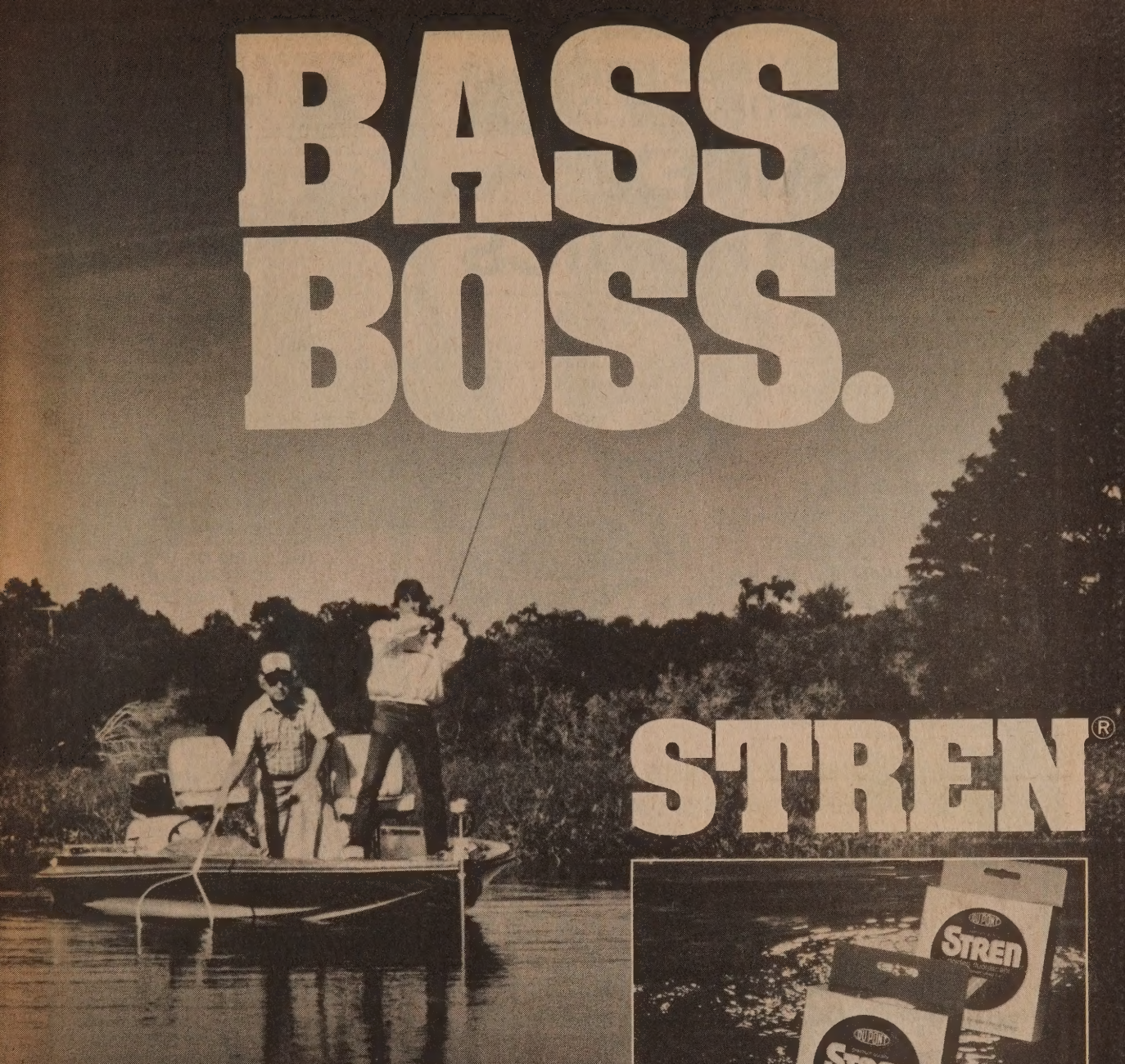
"Yet in the proposed 1986 budget, the Office of Management and Budget has proposed to violate the law and deny full funding for this new progam," the National Wildlife Federation and other groups wrote in a letter to President Reagan.

The budget proposal would freeze all of the new monies allocated to the Fund and actually seek to change the 1984 law—resulting in an approximate loss of about $100 million for the new fund.

According to National Wildlife Federation Executive Vice President Jay D. Hair, "The Administration's move completely erodes the public's confidence in the 'user pays' concept that sportsmen have supported for decades to pay their own way.

"On one hand, we have anglers and boaters responding to the President's call to help dig government out from under the budget deficit by taxing themselves to pay for fishing programs they want. While, on the other hand, the Office of Management and Budget is refusing to return the user funds to the users—instead seeking

BASS BOSS.



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AM/FM CASSETTE W/2 SPEAKERS	$90.
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to change the very law the President just enacted."

The other groups signing the letter are the American Fisheries Society; the American Recreation Coalition; the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society; Boat Owners Association of the U.S.; the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies; the Izaak Walton League of America; the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators; the National Boating Federation; National Marine Manufacturers Association; the Sport Fishing Institute; Trout Unlimited, and the Wildlife Management Institute.

A similar letter requesting a reversal of the budget proposal was sent to the President and signed by a bipartisan group of 12 U.S. Senators and 18 Representatives.

"It also makes a mockery of previous Administration statements on user fees."

OUTDOORSMEN: LEARN ABOUT THE HARM OF THE SUN TO YOUR SKIN

Skin cancer! Those two words send chilling thoughts through the minds of most persons. Many are outdoorsmen and women who make a living or spend much of their free time in the sun fishing, boating and sailing. And most are completely ignorant of the harmful effects of the sun over the years until a skin abnormality shows up.

Skin cancer, including melanoma and non-melanoma types, is the most common cancer in the United States and accounts for between 30 and 40 percent of all cancers and is increasing at a significant rate. Reports from the National Cancer Institute estimate that 18,000 Americans will develop a primary melanoma and over half a million persons will develop other forms of skin cancer this year.

According to the American Academy of Dermatology, the sun is the leading cause of most types of skin cancer and people with the greatest risk are the outdoorsmen.

One outdoorsman who knows firsthand is Bill Dance a nationally known television fisherman from Memphis, Tennessee, who two years ago discovered he was developing scaly, reddish colored lesions on his hands.

"I really know now what too much sun and its ultraviolet rays can do to the skin," Dance said. "Just look at the back of my hands," as he displayed the effects of what years of the sun's exposure had done.

Dance had noticed the "sun spots" but said like many of us he had put off seeking medical advice because he was too busy and the spots weren't bothering him. That was until he met Dr. Jack Graham, a leading dermatologist and avid fisherman from Roswell, New Mexico, who had developed a new sunscreen lotion called Overcast 15.

Both were attending a fishing tackle trade show and after becoming

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acquainted, Dance asked in passing it Dr. Graham could recommend something for the spots on his hands and arms. Dr. Graham saw the warning signs and advised Dance to see a physician immediately once he got home. Dance did. He had actinic keratoses, a sun-induced condition that often develops into skin cancer. One spot had indeed developed and the scar on Dance's hand is the result of the surgery to remove it.

"I can't really change my life style of being in the sun and fishing, but I can change the exposure I receive," Dance stated with a new respect foi the effects of the sun. He added that he religiously wipes Overcast 15 on every morning and highly prefers it over the others because it resists wash-off by perspiration and water, it's soothing, non-greasy and unnoticeable after application and protects against sunburn and windburn as well.

Other professional fishermen, maNy who have had skin cancer, swear by the protection from the sun they receive with Overcast 15.

Dr. Graham notes that the figures reported by cancer researchers are staggering. But he says if people use common sense by wearing protective clothing such as long-sleeved shirts and wide-brimmed hats, and use Overcast 15-type products to block out the sun on exposed areas of the skin, most would be spared from getting skin cancer.

Since the introduction of Overcast 15 Lotion, Sunbelt Laboratories, the parent company, has developed Overcast 15 Stik for the lips and faces for protection from the sun and wind. Both are marketed through fishing tackle stores and marinas across the country.

1985 FISHING GUIDE AVAILABLE

Nick Karas' 1985 edition of the Guide to Saltwater Fishing in New York Waters is the most complete handbook a marine angler could want. Fishing charts in this edition have been expanded to 34, and cover the waters in Long Island Sound and from Sandy Hook east to Fishers Island and offshore. It offers a complete list of tide tables, fishing stations, boat ramps, charter and party boats and boat rentals.

Ever had trouble finding a way to gain access to saltwater? The Guide has solved that problem for you with a three-panel fold-out map that lists 91 entries to the surf or shoreline. If you've ever had trouble filleting fish, you won't now. Because the Guide illustrates with photos, the easy five-step method for filleting round and flat fish, that are used in seafood stores.

One of the new, unique, added features of the 1985 edition is a line drawing of the best terminal rig for each species of fish that swims in New York's marine waters. The 12 illustrations lucidly show how you can build your own terminal gear.

The new edition, at $7.95, is now available at more than 240 tackle shops, marine dealers and book stores throughout the Metropolitan New York area and Long Island. Or, it is available by mail. New York residents must send $9.30 to cover the cost of the book, tax, postage and handling to: KARMAPCO, P.O. Box 194, St. James, NY 11780. Non-New York residents should send $8.70.

FISH AMERICA FOUNDATION AWARDS $10,000 GRANT TO SPORT FISHING INSTITUTE

FishAmerica Foundation, headquartered in Tulsa, Oklahoma, has awarded a $10,000 grant to the Sport Fishing Institute (SFI) to develop and implement the Sport Fishing Education Network (SFEN). The Network will improve and increase the kinds and amount of information for groups who promote conservation and environmental concerns relating to sport fishing and clean water.

Gilbert Radonski, President of SFI, commented, "Many organizations are not all speaking the same language at the same time to achieve common purposes. Our Network will provide each group with a steady supply of criically important information and data, and guide them to develop their strategic and advocacy activities."

"Now," Radonski continued, "with so many cutbacks in funding and

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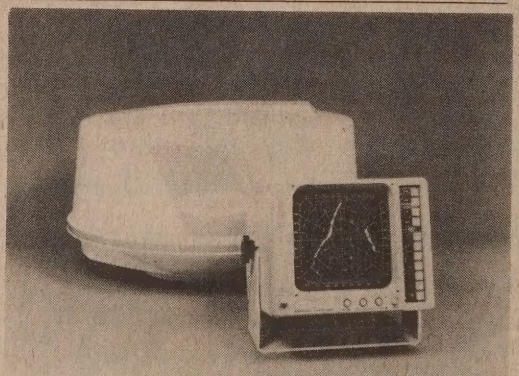

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diminution of the shared fish resource, it becomes imperative to have a source to provide solid, action-oriented information to a variety of organizations to help ensure that sport fishing concerns are a priority among the administrative agencies and regulatory bodies, and to help guarantee that agency actions are consistent with developing a healthy sport fishery."

"With SFEN, we will be able to share a wide range of information with a broad conservation constituency, and provide a united front for protecting the interests of recreational fishermen and boaters, while monitoring the activities of aquatic resource agencies and other groups whose actions have direct and immediate impact on sport fishing," Radonski stated.

FishAmerica Foundation, created in 1983 by Zebco, a Division of the Brunswick Company, contributes funds to established organizations committed to the conservation and improvement of fresh and salt water fisheries in North America.

The Sport Fishing Institute, founded in 1949, is devoted to the protection, enhancement and wise utilization of America's freshwater and marine aquatic resources, especially the fish populations and essential habitats. The principal objective of SFI is to provide more and better sport fishing opportunities through the application of fishery science.

EAGLE CLAW TO OFFER FISHING TRIP SWEEPSTAKES AND FREE REEL

Eagle Claw fishing tackle of Denver, Colorado has announced two exciting new promotional programs.

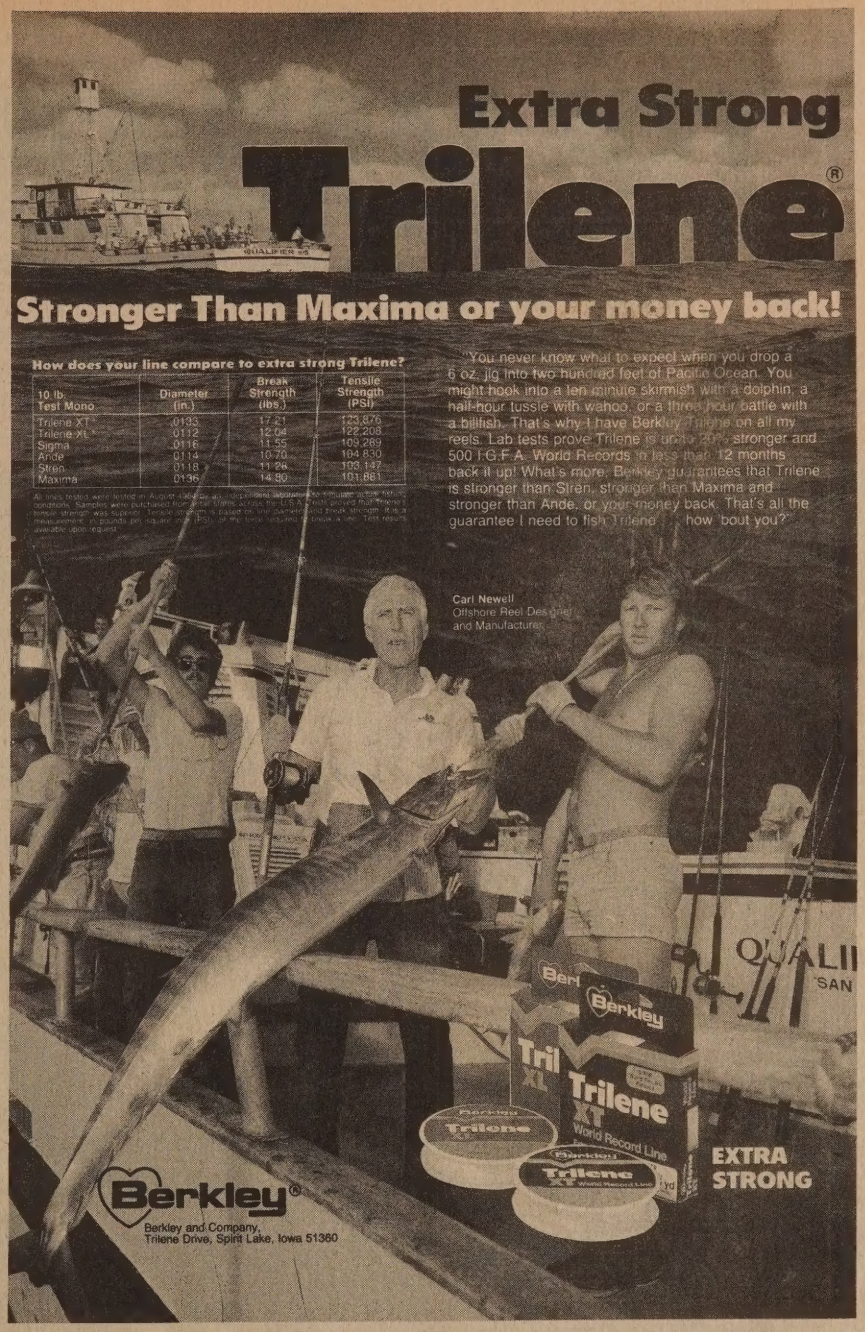
The first is a (no purchase necessary) sweepstakes drawing to be held at the end of October. Five Grand Prizes will be awarded which will be a fishing trip dreams are made of: 5 days for two people at their favorite fishing spot in the Continental U.S.A.—plus $1,000 in cash, a total $5,000 value per grand prize.

Eagle Claw Packit Rods will be given as 250 1st prizes. The Packit is a 4-piece combo for spinning or spincasting: a $29.95 value.

The 500 2nd prizes are a year's supply of assorted hooks: a $25 value.

The second offer is for a free reel—spinning or spincasting: your choice. All you have to do is send in a proof of purchase of any Eagle Claw rod and quantities of snelled hook packaging cards as follows: 3 hook package, 6 cards; 6 hooks, 4 cards; 12 hooks, 3 cards; 25 hooks, 2 cards—or any other proof of purchase of Eagle Claw hooks. These should be accompanied with $2 for postage and handling.

The offer is included with Eagle Claw snelled hook packaging and in the new consumer catalog which can be obtained at your local dealer or by writing to Eagle Claw, P.O. Box 16011, Denver, CO 80216-0011. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.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"You never know what to expect when you drop a 6 oz. jig into two hundred feet of Pacific Ocean. You might hook into a ten minute skirmish with a dolphin, a half-hour tussle with wahoo, or a three hour battle with a billfish. That's why I have Berkley Trilene on all my reels. Lab tests prove Trilene is up to 20% stronger and 500 I.G.F.A. World Records in less than 12 months back it up! What's more, Berkley guarantees that Trilene is stronger than Stren, stronger than Maxima and stronger than Ande, or your money back. That's all the guarantee I need to fish Trilene . . . how 'bout you?"
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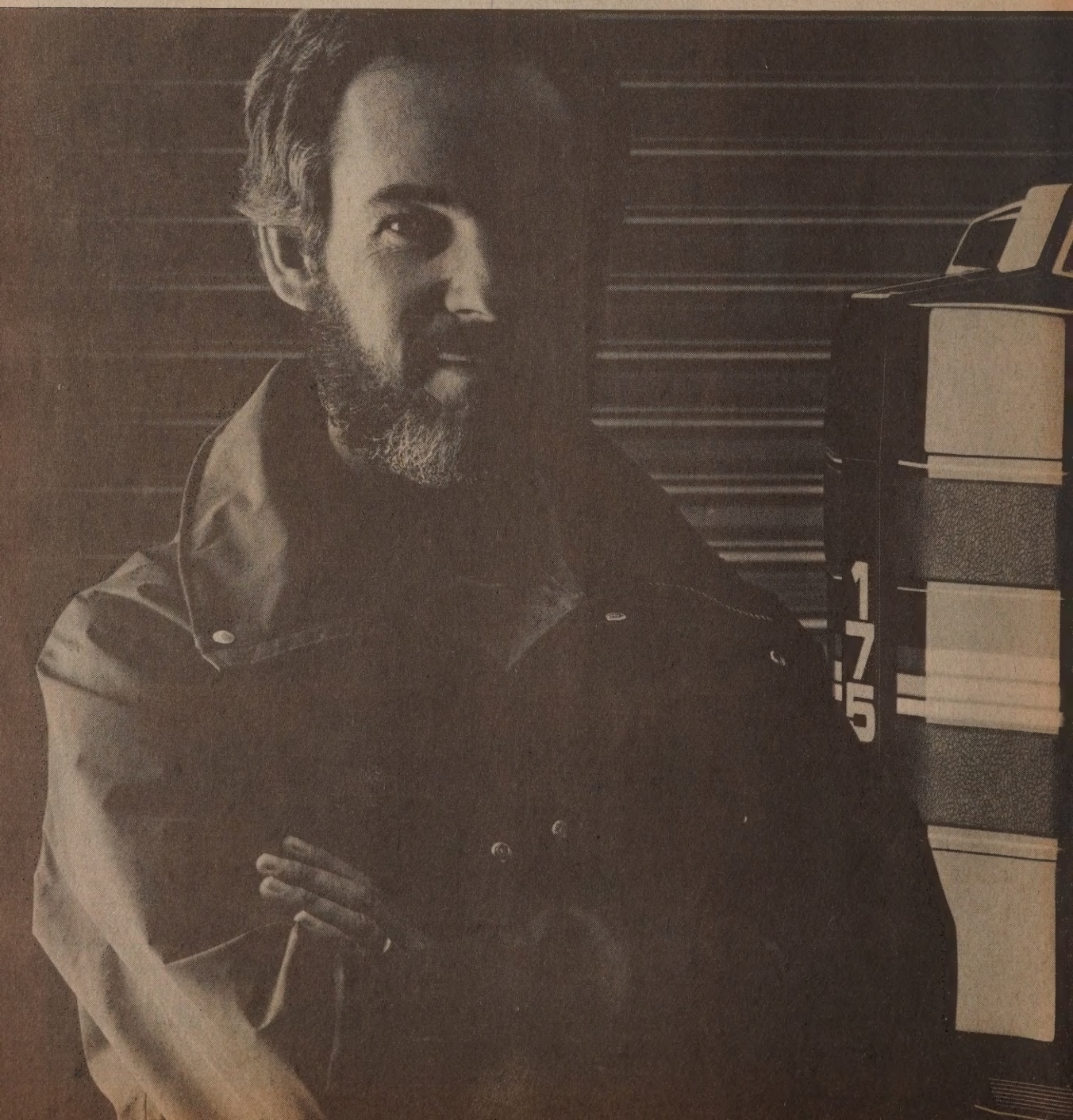
For his work, Pete relies on an unsinkable center console rig. And the uncompromising power of a sea-going legend. Mercury.®



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CHUM LINES

SHARING THE WEALTH

Dear Sirs,

Though my party boat fishing experience is only four years young, within that time I've made many friends and gained more fishing knowledge than all my previous years fishing.

Among these friends is John Maslausy, affectionately know to myself and other fishermen as "Codfather" because of the many pool winning codfish he has caught. John is in his seventies, has been fishing for over 50 years and last year lived through an operation for the removal of his bladder.

The enclosed codfish rig is John's creation. He invented it to improve the odds against big codfish that kept breaking dropper loop knots as they waved him goodbye. He has taught others besides me how to tie this rig.

Now it has become popular with many party boat fishermen, some of whom don't even know who John Maslausy is.

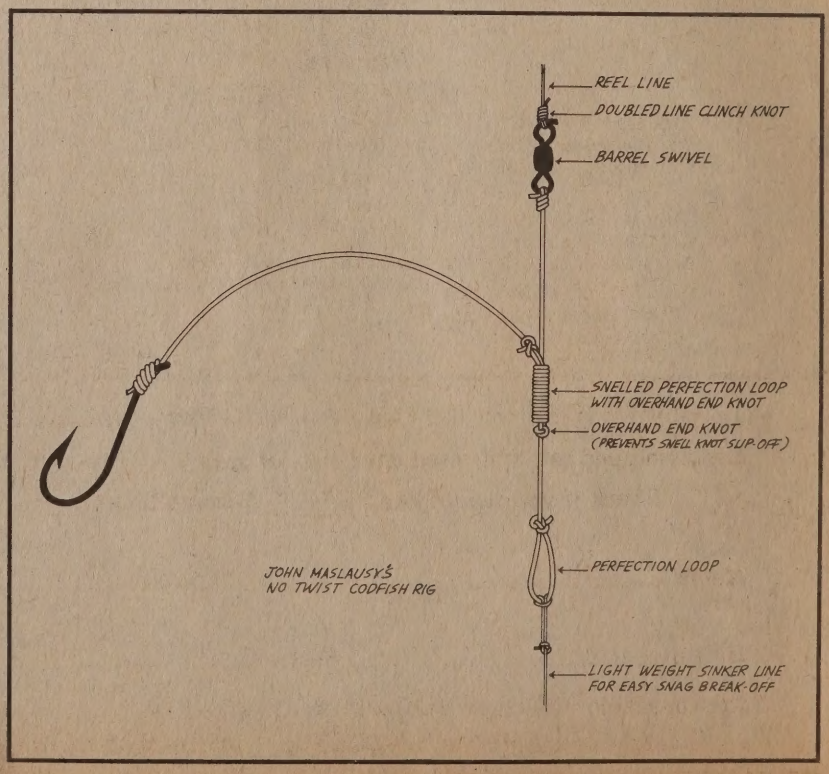
So I'm writing to you in the hope of your publishing information about this rig in The Fisherman, thereby sharing this rig with other fishermen and at the same time, giving John the credit he so greatly deserves for his creation.

Tying the rig is not as complicated as it may appear. Anyone who can snell a hook and tie a perfection loop can make it.

Here's how: Snell preferred cod hook using 60 lb. test leader material. Before making perfection loop to finish leader, tie overhand knot on leader so that when perfection loop is formed the overhand knot is at the loop end. Now using 60 lb. test leader snell separate leader onto perfection loop. The overhand knot on the perfection loop end prevents this additional leader from slipping off. To finish rig, tie a swivel onto the reel line end and a loop onto the sinker end. For attaching sinker, a lighter weight line is tied onto the sinker end loop. This lighter line breaks off easily if the sinker happens to snag on bottom.

I have adapted this rig for blackfish using 50 lb. test leader and enlarging the sinker end loop to fit sinker.

I am an artist by profession and have made the enclosed drawing of a completed rig for use in The Fisherman if you so desire. *Pedro Loran.*


REEL LINE
DOUBLED LINE CLINCH KNOT
BARREL SWIVEL
SNELLED PERFECTION LOOP WITH OVERHAND END KNOT
OVERHAND END KNOT (PREVENTS SNELL KNOT SLIP-OFF)
PERFECTION LOOP
LIGHT WEIGHT SINKER LINE FOR EASY SNAG BREAK-OFF
JOHN MASLAUSY'S NO TWIST CODFISH RIG

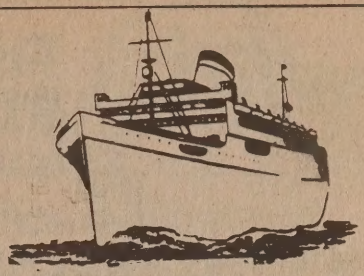
COPY OF LETTER IN SUPPORT OF COUNTY PARK ACQUISITION

Rose Caracappa
Suffolk County Legislator
248-260 Middle Country Rd.
Selden, NY 11784

Dear Ms. Caracappa:

I would like to offer my sincere thanks for your interest concerning Camp Barstow in Miller Place for a Suffolk County park. Any additional

WIN



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★ PRESENTATION OF '84 FLUKE AWARDS FROM CAPT. NAPPI'S 2nd ANNUAL FLUKE TOURNAMENT!
★ FREE REFRESHMENTS! ★ PRIZES!
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parkland, especially with shoreline frontage would certainly be welcomed.

Our shorelines have been plundered by condos, private homes and motels. As I am certain you know, the majority of town maintained parking access points have either been closed for parking or the hours for parking have been drastically reduced.

At a time when the wholesome recreation of surf fishing is desperately needed by our youth, senior citizens and dedicated sportsmen, we are restricted from *our* beaches.

It is well to note at this time, the New Jersey Supreme Court agreed that their state beaches are a "public trust" to which private-property rights must give way. Reference: Time Magazine, August 27, 1984.

The dedicated surf fisherman has lost 90 percent of access to these beaches.

Please feel free to call concerning Camp Barstow and Brookhaven Town beaches. *Robert P. Santacroce.*

WANTS MORE INFO ON PCBs

Dear Dr. Muller:

With all of the recent press regarding the plight of striped bass and PCBs, could you give us an update on other species of fish that share the same water.

I am very concerned that fish such as flounder and blackfish are "tainted" as well.

I'm a local fishermen and I concentrate on the species of fish most abundant for the particular season. Over the entire year I'm able to stock my freezer with many types of fish. Fortunately, I've been lucky and I can feed my family fish four to five nights per week.

Are there other fish in our waters that have a relatively high index in PCBs? What fish other than striped bass should we be concerned about?

Finally, is there any facility where we could have our fillets tested for contamination?

I am an avid reader of your magazine and appreciate all the helpful information passed on. It's a shame a species has to become poisoned in order for the government to step in and save it! *Tony Fleck.*

We've received a lot of phone calls and mail in recent weeks about PCBs and that's a natural what with the Governor banning the commercial harvest of striped bass in most of the island's saltwater due to health concerns vis-a-vis, striped bass and PCBs. We can't tell you and to the best of our knowledge, no one can tell you at this time, about precise contamination of PCBs in species across the board. However, there does seem to be a scenario that fits well. That is, fish that live exclusively in the ocean tend to have less of a problem with PCBs than fish who spend either all or some of their time in freshwater rivers that have been contaminated.

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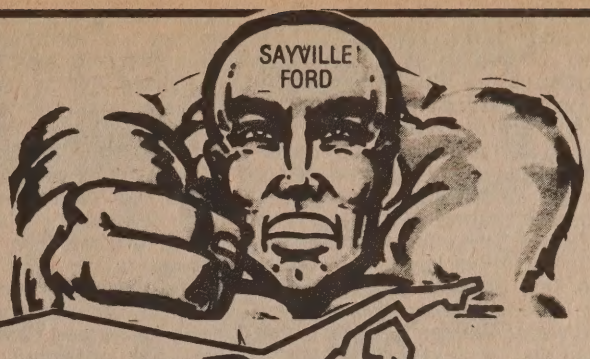

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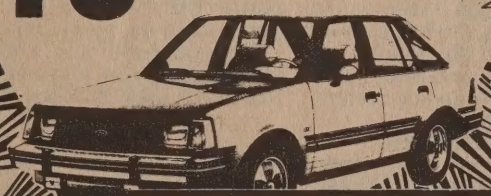

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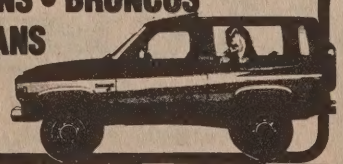

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Such is the case for the Hudson River. For a long time, General Electric dumped tons of PCBs in the upper Hudson as part of their routine manufacturing processes. In those days we didn't suspect that PCBs were a toxic hazard in terms of today's understanding. Actually, we ignored lots of toxic chemical problems for decades until people started to get sick and other health problems began to surface plainly. In any event, PCB levels in fish like flounder and blackfish caught in our estuaries should be very low. However, we can pinpoint some species that also pose a potential health menace for us. These would be fish that are in the Hudson. For example, white perch are common in the Hudson and most will spend their entire life in the river. White perch that have been tested have shown high levels of PCBs although the contamination levels have ranged quite a bit. Eels are another source of concern. Several eels from upriver showed the highest contamination. Female eels will go upriver and spend a few years in freshwater before migrating back to sea for spawning. The time of exposure and the types of food eels eat have apparently contributed to high PCB levels in those tested. I'd stay away from Hudson River tom cod and sturgeon, too. In fact, I'd avoid eating fish caught in the Hudson River. Unfortunately, there is no public place to bring fish samples for routine testing. However, if symptoms of disease appear and are suspected of being related to exposure to toxic chemicals, there are agencies that can be contacted. At that point, and hopefully such a situation does not apply to any of our readers, consult your family physician. Although we believe the PCB issue is one to be concerned about, it's important that we don't react irrationally. It's clear that our public officials are concerned and they are taking steps to safeguard us. We can also help ourselves by following the consumption recommendations for striped bass and other fish that are potentially contaminated. There's no need to panic; PCBs will not drastically affect us if we avoid consuming those items that have the potential for high levels of PCB content. Dr. W.A. Muller.

HIGHER FEES FOR STATE FISHING PERMITS

Dear Doc,

I was surprised at the increase in cost of fishing permits for Caumsett State Park from $10 to $25. What has the state done at the park to justify this increase? As in previous years, it has only provided access to the beach; nothing else has changed. If the number of permits were increased, the cost could be lowered. The parking facilities at the beach would not be a problem as the lot is never more than half full at any time.

I am sure that the Long Island surfcasters and especially senior casters, would appreciate your comments concerning where we could apply pressure to stop further increases. *A. Leuteman.*

You weren't the only one surprised by the increase. We, too, were taken aback. You'll be interested to know that The Fisherman has filed a formal letter of policy with the Long Island State Parks and Recreation Commission on this issue and the Commission has responded that it is willing to review data and arguments on the subject for 1986 permits. Not by way of defense, but rather as information, we can inform you that the Commission has made some positive changes at Caumsett. First, they have expanded the parking facility by about 40 percent and they have added a slope entrance to the beach on the left side of the parking lot. This eliminates having to ski down the front face of the lot. Nobody likes fee increases and we promise to discuss the results of this year's permit program with the Commission in depth prior to the development of the 1986 program. Dr. W.A. Muller.

STRIPERS IN NEW YORK LAKES?

Dear Dr. Muller:

I am writing you in reference to a matter that has long concerned me, and, I am sure, many others.

Do you have any knowledge of lakes in New York and on Long Island, that have been stocked with striped

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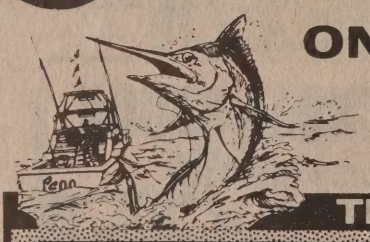

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AUGIES CUSTOM TACKLE

bass?

My last bit of information shows that there are 25 states that have been successful in this venture, possibly more at this time!

Needless to say, again to my knowledge, this is not the case in New York! It seems with the scarcity of striped bass this certainly is a most worthwhile project. *Edward Reinisch.*

We were confident in the answer to this inquiry, but we checked with DEC's Phil Briggs, Senior Biologist, just to be sure. There are no lakes in New York State that are stocked with striped bass. However, recently some striped bass/white bass hybrids were stocked in Fort Pond at Monauk and the feedback has been that those fish are creating a stir. We assume you mean that 25 states are now stocking striped bass in their lakes. That number may be a little shy of the mark. However, it is interesting to consider that you can catch striped bass in the waters of about 42 out of the contiguous states. That's impressive and it shows how important this species is to the vitality of the recreational fishing industry. Dr. W.A. Muller.

MORE ON PERMIT FEES!

Dear Sir:

The recent increase of 100 percent for a night fishing permit by the L.I.S.P.C. is a gouge and insult to all sport fishermen.

I have fished Fire Island as boy and man long before the bridge was built and now as a senior citizen this is the straw that breaks my back.

This will be the first year since the permits were issued that I will not bend to extortion.

I can agree to a modest fee for printing and handling permits, but now that the foot is in the door the sky is the limit.

I refuse to listen to the bull about preventing vandalism and police protection and so on. You and I know that this is a problem that plagues the nation.

Fishermen or no fishermen, you will get these incidents and regardless of the fishermen the police still have to protect and patrol the parking fields at night. Bona fide fishermen are not vandals and vandals do not buy permits, regardless of the cost.

I will not give up night fishing at my favorite spots even if it means breaking the law. You cannot take my freedom to fish away from me. *Albert Browneski.*

We understand your frustration. Once again let us state that we have written a formal letter to the Commission on the subject and they have responded. We have a commitment to review data and program regulations prior to instituting the 1986 permit program. Unless the Commission provides solid data indicating the increase is necessary, we will push hard for a rollback in permit fees. Dr. W.A. Muller.

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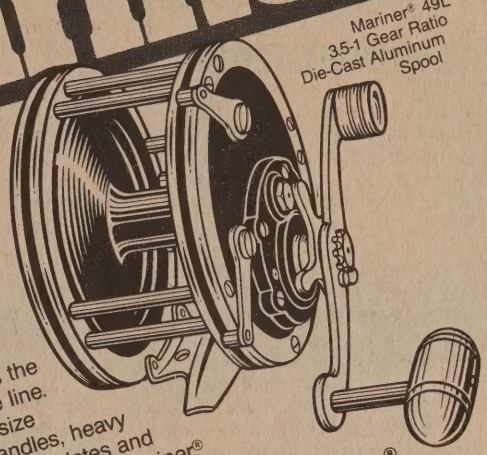

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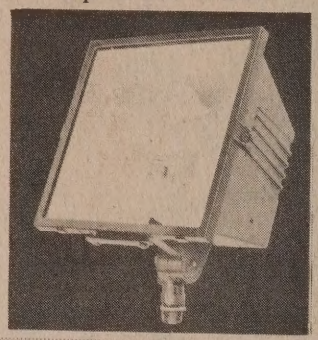

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Species:	Lbs. / Oz.	Angler:	Date:	Location:
Albacore (Longfin)	62 / 2	Mal Fraiser	9/16/84	Jones Inlet
Black Sea Bass	9 / 0	Sal Vicari	10/10/83	Montauk
Blackfish	16 / 3	Ian Lindsay	10/31/84	L.I. Sound
Bluefish	24 / 8	Erin McDonnel Brown	9/29/79	L.I. Sound
Cod	85 / 0	Fred Shay, Jr.	2/25/84	Montauk
Flounder (Winter)	5 / 15	Warren Gano	4/4/64	Montauk
Fluke	22 / 7	Charles Nappi	9/15/75	Montauk
Marlin (Blue)	940 / 0	Skip Lowell Mickey Kreitovich	8/4/81 7/26/84	Montauk Montauk
Marlin (White)	130 / 0	Mrs. P. Dater	8/13/51	Montauk
Pollock	40 / 0	Jay York	7/15/84	Jones Inlet
Porgy (Scup)	6 / 4	Samuel Warren	1978	Montauk
Shark (Blue)	393 / 0	Roy Carpenter	9/8/79	Montauk
Shark (Mako)	1080 / 0	James Melanson	8/26/79	Montauk
Shark (Tiger)	1047 / 0	Bob Jessen	7/16/83	Fire Island
Shark (White)	1450 / 0	Richard Pastorelli	7/24/65	Montauk
Striped Bass	76 / 0	Bob Rocchetta	7/17/81	Montauk
Swordfish	492 / 4	Dorothea Cassullo	7/4/59	Montauk
Tuna (Bigeye)	335 / 0	Richard Buechmann	9/27/81	Fire Island
Tuna (Bluefin)	1071 / 0	Larry Thompson	8/21/77	Montauk
Tuna (Yellowfin)	239 / 0	Bob Clancy	8/14/78	Fire Island
Weakfish	19 / 2	Dennis Rooney	10/11/84	Jones Inlet

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★ PRODUCT REVIEW ★

SHIMANO TRITON MARK III MAG

by Fred Golofaro

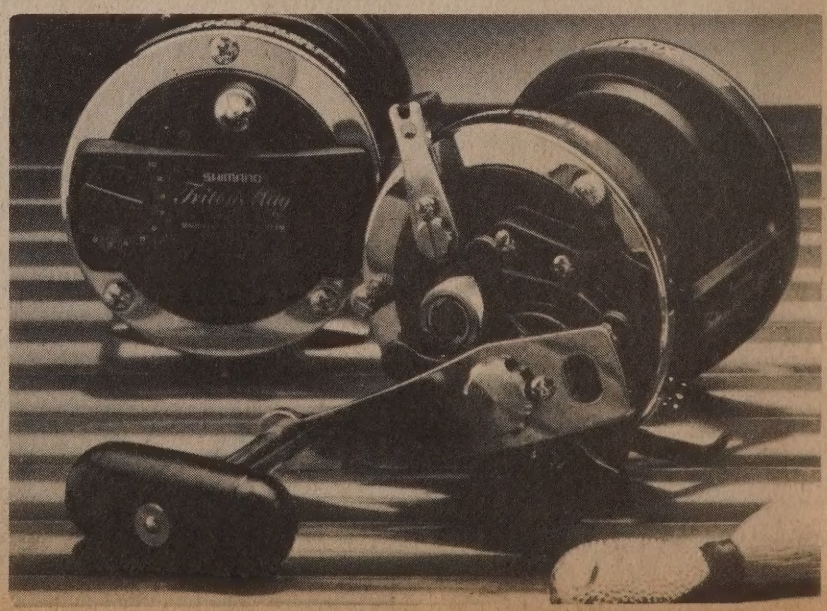
The last few years have witnessed a resurgence of interest in conventional casting reels along much of the East Coast. A large volume of letters and questions at boat and sport shows, and Fisherman seminars in recent years, reflect this new enthusiasm for conventional casting.

Part of their most recent attraction must be the quality of the new reels being manfactured, including the addition of magnetic casting control systems which can be adjusted to virtually eliminate that once feared bane of all conventional casters—the backlash. Indeed, we've come a long way from the days when surfmen spent more time picking out snarls than they did fishing. Many old-guard surfmen claim that such frustrations alone kept the ranks of casters in check until the advent of spinning. Surf fishing enjoyed a tremendous boom in those post-war years as spinning reels, along with modern advances in line and rod manufacturing, enabled virtually anyone to become a member of the beach set.

It is with this same ease and confidence that many of today's anglers are expanding their skills and arsenals to include at least one, and often several conventional casting outfits for their beach work. Many surf fishermen have found that the conventional outfits are far better suited to baitfishing situations. Some also favor the fish fighting characteristics of conventional over spinning, particularly for taking large fish in heavy water.

During the 1984 season, I had the opportunity to put one of Shimano's new Triton Mag reels to work. Putting the Mark III through its paces turned out to be a somewhat unexpected pleasant experience. Let me explain. Preconceptions based on my prior conventional casting experiences left me skeptical about the reel's application to the surf. "It looked like a boat reel" with its narrow spool and seemed like it might be a bit cumbersome for continuous casting. Almost reluctantly, I mounted the reel on a 10 foot Ugly Stik blank. I was immediately surprised and impressed by the "feel" of the reel and after ten minutes of casting, was sold entirely on the narrow spool concept.

Gerry Gomber, who is product manager for Shimano and has also been known to haunt beaches from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod, convinced me to go with the narrower



spooled Mark III as opposed to the beamier Mark IV. He vowed further casts were possible with the narrower spool model though veteran surfmen have advocated for years, the use of wide spool reels for casting. Gerry claimed that the smaller surface area (less distance for the line to travel off the spool) reduced friction and in fact, added 30 to 40 feet to casts in the 300 foot range. He also claimed that since most of the reel's weight was centered over the rod, it would result in better rod control and a better balanced outfit. He was right on all counts! The experience made me an advocate of narrow spool reels for casting. Penn's 970 Mag Power casting reel is of the same breed and although I have had limited opportunities to put it to work, it did reinforce my commitment to the narrow spooled models. After more extensive use, we plan on a similar review of Penn's Mag Series casting reel.

Now, let's get back to the Triton Mark III. Aside from casting like a dream, I encountered no problems with the reel over the course of the season. I was particularly impressed with the Mark III's drag which features a unique stainless steel ball bearing system backed up by titanium composite drag washers. While the best test I could provide for the reel were teen size blues, other anglers reported the same smooth, trouble-free performance while diamond jigging school tuna up to nearly 100 pounds on the Mark IV. Both reels contain the same systems, the Mark IV being the bigger brother to the Mark III and possessing a greater line capacity due to the wider spool. The Mags are powerfully geared and fitted with a lever style spool release. Their predecessor, the gold anodized Triton contained a pushbutton spool release which did hang up on occasion. The lever has eliminated any such problems. Both the Mark III and Mark IV are fitted with adjustable power handles and adjustable cast control knobs.

Obviously, the use of these reels extends far beyond the surf line. Party boat anglers who have discovered the value of tossing diamond jigs or cod rigs away from the boat can certainly benefit from the Triton's fine casting qualities. Some offshore anglers have taken to toting the Mark IVs along for use as 30 pound class outfits. More than a few tuna and sharks have fallen to these reels and that alone is pretty good testimony to their strength and endurance.

SPECIFICATIONS

	Mark III	Mark IV
Weight:	22.9 oz.	24.2 oz.
Gear Ratio:	5:1	5:1
Line Capacity:	14/580	20/480
(test/yards)	20/360	25/390
	25/290	30/330

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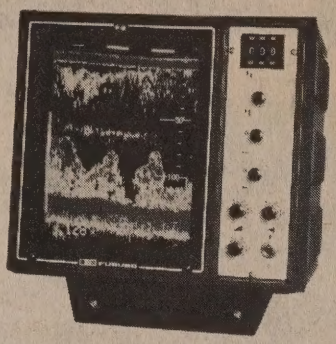

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THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

What's the object of having two or three rods when you go fishing for one particular kind of fish and know you won't need more than one rod? I keep reading magazines about fishing and every writer seems to feel those of us who fish for fun are loaded with money and can buy dozens of rods, reels and other tackle items. Well, I certainly am not one of the rich and I can't afford to carry a half dozen outfits with me every time I go fishing.

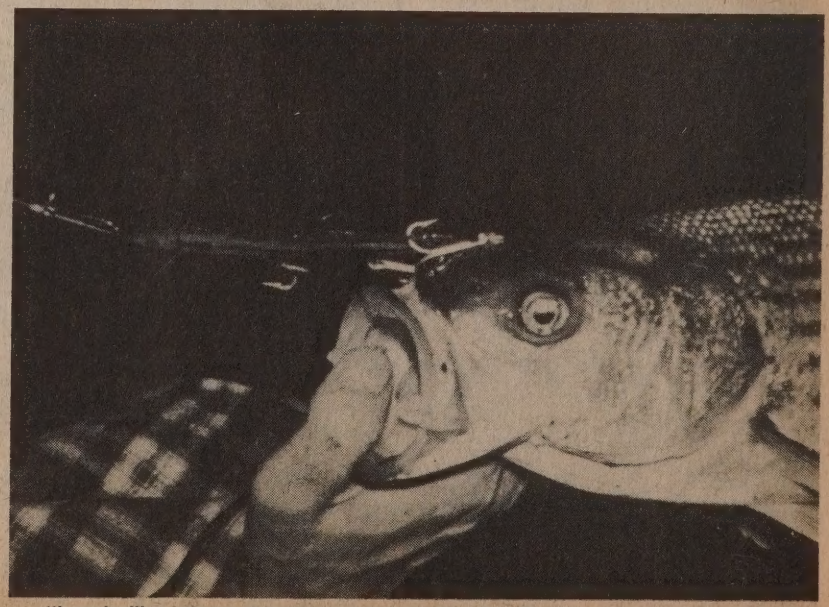
Why can't you suggest just one or two outfits that will cover the majority of situations we are going to find on a given day on the water? I am sure there is such an animal as a general purpose fishing outfit, so let's have the lowdown. *Bill Frease.*

Dear Bill,

There are some dandy all-purpose fishing outfits. We, in fact, carry a couple of them on the boat every time we fish and most days they see use. But these are, as the name suggests, all purpose and to have a rod and reel that serves all-around duty you have to sacrifice something to gain something else. In the case of our all-purpose outfits it's light weight. Both are classed as "mid-weight" and one is built with spinning guides, while the other is designed as a popping rod. We use 14 lb. test line on each even though one is basically a spinning rod that sees use as a casting or bucktailing outfit and the other, built along the line of a mid-weight popping rod is used for drift fishing, bottom fishing for tog, sea bass or porgies or is utilized when chumming for blues, bonito or false albacore. We often use this rod to work diamond jigs, but it's a tad too light for deep water use and just a mite too heavy for jigging in the shallows. As we said, you have to sacrifice in one area to gain in another.

We happen to like using a variety of different tackle. Maybe that's why we always have at least a half dozen outfits rigged and ready whenever we head out the inlet for a full day of fishing. You may not need all that equipment, but it does add to your fishing enjoyment and if it does not damage the family budget, why not have the tackle that provides you with the best possible sport in each and every aspect?

Our all-purpose outfits are built in 6½ foot lengths and each matches up with a mid-size spinning or conventional type casting reel. They are classed as 10 to 20 lb. test rods and will handle lure weights of up to 1½ or 2 ounces. You might want a rod that's slightly longer, say 7 feet, or



"Loaded" minnow shaped swimmers like this Redfin are favorites of surfmen seeking blues, bass and weaks.

you may want shorter rods. Either way, try to stick with rods that will take the 1½ to 2 ounce weights and you should have versatile outfits that will handle everything from winter flounder to slammer blues. Remember, however, that you are losing something by trying to cover all bases with just one basic outfit.

* * *

Dear Doc,

A couple of years back you wrote an article about "loading plugs." In it, you explained how to load the plastic plugs with water so they swim deper when slowly retrieved. I believe you illustrated the story with a Redfin swimmer but it might have been a Rebel or Hellcat—I am not completely sure.

I have recently gotten into surf and jetty fishing and am having trouble getting any distance when I cast the lightweight plastic plugs that are so popular today for bass, blues and weakfish.

Can you explain the process again for those of us who did not keep the back issues or have forgotten just how it was done? *Jim Stout.*

Dear Jim,

Your memory is better than ours. We had to go through the back issues to find that article just to make sure it was a Redfin that we used to illustrate the copy. You are right on the money. We had a 7 inch Redfin in the photos which went along with the story.

Loading the plastic plugs is reasonably easy. The hollow body lends itself to loading much easier than did the old-style wooden plugs which had to be drilled or burned before lead could be added to give the lure an entirely different swimming motion.

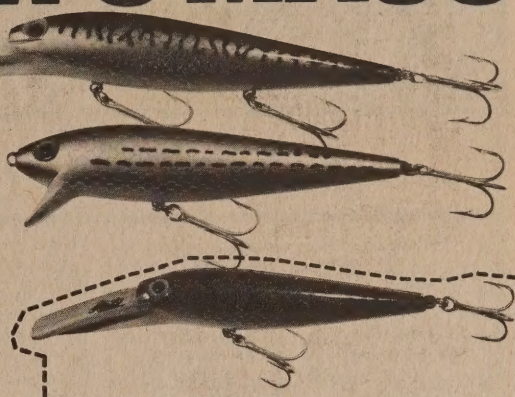
To load any hollow plastic plug all you need is a large needle such as those used by carpet installers, a cigarette lighter or even a match, some type of syringe or squeeze bottle to hold the water, or more preferably mineral oil, since it will not evaporate, and a little epoxy glue to re-seal the opening after you've filled the plug body with water or oil.

We burn a small hole in the plug right at the seam where each side is joined. A good spot for the opening is right at the head of the plug in front of the first set of treble hook, but at the top side behind the painted eyes. Keep this opening as small as possible while still allowing a large enough opening to insert the syringe or squeeze bottle's point.

Use about an ounce or ounce and a half of mineral oil for a 7 inch plug, and about 3/4 ounces for the 5½ inch models. This will give the plug enough weight to make it run deeper and swim with less frantic side to side motion as it is retrieved, and it will afford you greater casting distance.

After filling the plug body, cover the opening with epoxy glue and allow enough drying time before using the lure. You should have good results.

STORM'S MACS



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THE TOLTEN

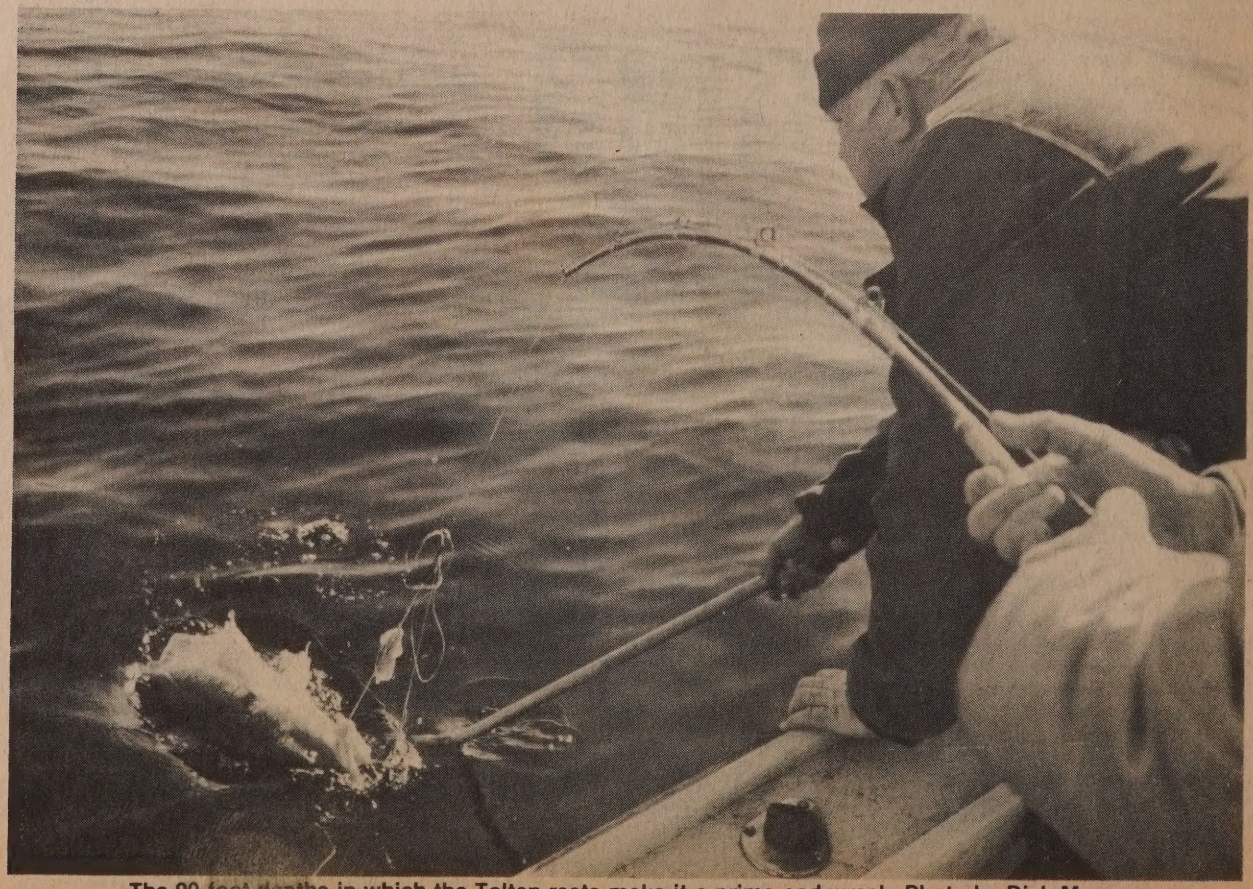
by John Raguso

The Tolten slipped quietly up the Jersey Coast early on the morning of March 13, 1942. She had brought up a capacity cargo of nitrates from Chile and had discharged it in Baltimore the day before. She was en route to New York Harbor, traveling in ballast and had passed Barnegat Inlet around midnight. Following U.S. Navy orders, the Chilean freighter was proceeding without her running lights, making her way northward by the glow of the Jersey beach only ten miles distant to the west. This tactic was meant to keep the U-Boats from knowing the exact course that the Allied ships made through the protective minefields, but it was all for naught. The Tolten didn't see the grey silhouette of the German sub flanking her position to seaward and running ahead to set up a torpedo run. When the freighter reached a spot equidistant between Barneget and Manasquan Inlets, she was greeted by a pair of deadly silver fish that ripped into her side and tore the ship apart, sending her to the bottom in only six minutes in 15 fathoms of water.

The only survivor, Julio Faust, managed to cling to a life raft for nearly 12 hours until a Coast Guard vessel picked him up and brought him to the Marine Hospital at Stapleton, Staten Island. Twenty-eight of his crew mates were not so lucky and they perished with their ship.

The Tolten, formerly the SS Lotta of Denmark, was one of five Danish steamers taken over "for the duration" by the Chilean Government when the war started in Europe. She was built in Aalborg, and had a gross weight of 1,858 tons. This was the first Chilean ship sunk during the hostilities, and it came as a shock to the Chilean Government, since they were only one of a few South American countries who had not declared war on Germany and remained neutral.

Foreign Minister Juan Rossetti of Chile summoned the German and Italian Ambassadors and the Japanese Minister in connection with the Tolten's sinking, to explain the Axis' role, since the U.S. Navy reported that she was sent to the bottom compliments of a Nazi undersea raider. German Navy officials had formerly assured the Chilean Government that they would not attack any ship that traveled with her running lights visible. The Tolten had started her trip from Delaware Bay at 2PM with her lights on, but was stopped by a U.S. Navy patrol boat slightly before midnight and instructed to travel blacked out. According to the Navy statement, the Tolten's captain was told to keep as close to the coast as he



The 90 foot depths in which the Tolten rests make it a prime cod wreck. Photo by Dick Mermon.

could without having a collision and to extinguish the lights when running at night. The doomed freighter was sunk shortly afterwards, about 2AM, only 10 hours after she had left Delaware Bay.

The Axis diplomats expressed their regrets over the incident a week after the Tolten's sinking, but stated that she wouldn't have been attacked if the freighter had left her running lights on. Subsequently, Chile drafted a note to the U.S. Government that as a result of the loss of life and property in the Tolten tragedy, Chilean ships thereafter would sail with "lights on" regardless of orders by any foreign power. The U.S. replied it could not accept this policy, because a lighted ship sailing near a United States coast would give away the route to be followed through the minefields. The matter was later resolved through diplomatic efforts.

The last minutes of the Tolten were described in detail by the lone surviving member of her crew. According to seaman Faust, who was the ship's electrician, the ship was ripped apart by the sudden explosion and it had sunk within minutes of the initial blast. Faust was in his cabin when the torpedoes hit, and he related that a short time before they struck, one of his shipmates had told him of seeing a big, black shadow to seaward of the Tolten's position. There was not even time to lower the lifeboats, and he was thrown clear of the sinking ship, managing to grab a loose life raft. He climbed aboard and lost consciousness. When he was picked up, he was suffering from exposure, shock and bruises, but his destiny fared better than his 28 other mates.

As an aside, let's take a moment to talk about the one thing that's a constant for most of the wrecks that his series is going to cover, and that's codfish. Even though I've approached the fishing potential of these wrecks from a standpoint of being a likely habitat to run into the pelagic game fish with a certain degree of frequency, the "winter king" can be counted on for consistent action even through the summer months if you fish the appropriate areas. I can recall trolling around offshore wrecks like the Virginia (37 miles SE of Fire Island Inlet) and the Bacardi (53 miles SE of Fire Island Inlet) in the middle of August and seeing charter boats anchored up and catching cod, while everyone else was covering the ocean's surface in search of tuna or marlin.

There are two information files that I've come across in my research concerning catching the "winter king" in the middle of summer that I'd like to share with you. One is an excerpt from "A Guide to Wreck Fishing" written by Capt. Bob Wallenstein of New Jersey and published by Capt. Vic Enterprises. The other is a passage taken from the "Anglers' Guide to the U.S. Atlantic Coast," authored by dozens of this area's most prominent charter boat captains and biologists and published by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA.

According to Capt. Wallenstein, "...wrecks are basically divided into three categories. Shallow water wrecks are wrecks that lie in anywhere from 20 to 60 feet of water and provide the most productive blackfishing and sometimes sea bass and porgy fishing during their respective seasons. Don't pass these up for an occasional try for fluke or blues. Those wrecks are usually fished in the spring and fall, and rarely are a target for cod fishermen. However, they should not be ignored for some of the fastest fishing and finest eating you might find. I like to fish the next category mainly for codfish, though they also will hold some fine blackfish populations at certain times of the year. These are what I call medium depth wrecks and lie in anywhere from 60' to 120' of water. I rarely consider a wreck suitable for cod unless it approaches 90', which seems to attract cod sometime in the middle of November, and can be fished successfully throughout the winter until about the end of March or beginning of April. At that time they start moving offshore, and at this time the 120 foot wrecks will provide the best action. Some of the better 120 foot wrecks will hold abundant supplies of cod and pollock throughout the summer and right into the next season. These wrecks usually lie about 30 miles from the nearest inlet in our area, and provide the bulk of the action for most of the small boats I know. These also hold fish throughout the winter, though, are sometimes passed up by the small boats in favor of a closer but equally productive wreck during the periods of questionable weather. The third category is composed of wrecks that lie in water greater than 120 feet, and this is where you can expect to find the best fishing during the summer. It must be kept in mind that as cod proceed on their seasonal inshore migration in the fall, some of the wrecks in the deepest water, that over 160 feet, might not hold as many fish in the colder months as they do in the spring

(Continued on next page.)

THE TOLTEN
Vital Statistics

Date Sunk: March 13, 1942
Length: Unknown
Beam: Unknown
Weight: 1,858 gross tons; 1014 net tons
Hull Construction: Steel
Hull Condition: Broken up with stern and mid-sections intact.
Depth of Water: 90 feet
Depth Over Wreck: 51 feet
Attitude of Wreck on Bottom: SE/NW
Lat/Lon Position: Originally reported at 39-53-48 N/73-48-12 W
Located at (1950): 39-55-30/73-47-30
Loran C Position: 815.6-815.9/359.7-360.1

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Port	Distance (Nautical Miles)	Heading (Magnetic) To	From
Fire Island Inlet	48.5	219°	039°
Jones Inlet	42.5	206°	026°
Debs Inlet	41.5	195°	015°
Rockaway Inlet	39.4	183°	003°
Sandy Hook	36.4	178°	358°
Shark River Inlet	19.8	162°	342°
Manasquan Inlet	16.3	151°	331°
Barnegat Inlet	16.3	072°	252°
Beach Haven Inlet	32.5	057°	237°
Little Egg Inlet	34.5	057°	237°
Absecon Inlet	42.8	054°	234°

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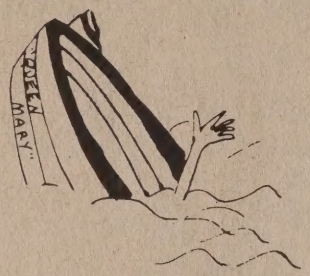

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and summer. All things considered, once you get to know each wreck, you are in range of fishing, you'll have a good idea which one is likely to produce during any given month of the season."

The NOAA folks have assembled the collective data and opinions of over 50 of the area's top skippers, prominent sport fishermen and biologists. They do a comprehensive job of explaining the year-round cod phenomenon from a scientific point of view.

According to their research, migratory fishes tend to gather in areas where temperature and food supply are favorable to their particular needs, and to remain there as long as those conditions persist, usually around offshore wrecks. Thanks to the wide range of environmental features in the Middle Atlantic sector, a remarkable diversity of sea life gathers here during the course of a year, including boreal, oceanic, tropical and temperate water fishes.

All of these fishes are here at the same time during the warmer months. What makes such a diversity possible at that season is the temperature structure of the water, the most striking feature of which is an enormous mass of cool bottom water extending from about Montauk, Long Island, to just south of Delaware Bay. Oceanographers explain this mass as leftover winter water, for it had been chilled during the preceding winter and remained cold even after the spring warming of the surface. It is called the Middle Atlantic Cold Cell. Its shape is roughly that of a triangle, of which the vertex is some 6 to 10 miles off Asbury Park, New Jersey; the northern point is about 20 miles off Montauk; and the southern point is about 45 miles off Delaware Bay.

The summer temperature in the Middle Atlantic Cold Cell ranges from about 45 to 50 F. Boreal or cold water fishes that can tolerate such cool water inhabit the bottom here. A few of them, such as cod, redfish and pollock, are permanent residents in this region rather than casual visitors, and probably belong to southern races of their respective species. They are generally sparsely distributed, tending to concentrate around sharp irregularities on the sea floor such as wrecks. In mid-autumn they begin moving southward about the same time as their northern relatives migrate into the area for the winter. These groups seldom go south of Cape Hatteras or east or north of Nantucket Shoals off Cape Cod.

People tend to associate cod with the North Atlantic banks of New England and Canada, as well as the cold waters of Iceland, Greenland and northern Europe. To them, the catching of cod off New Jersey and even southward as far as North Carolina comes as a surprise. But actually cod are only to be expected, for the bottom-water temperature off this stretch of coast falls within their limits of tolerance—the year-round off the coast of both Long Island and New

Jersey and during the winter and spring farther south.

The cod population off New Jersey and Long Island consists of at least three segments. Whether these are genetically distinct races or represent different age classes has yet to be determined. One segment is composed of year-round residents which stay offshore in depths of 150 feet or more, especially on wrecks. The second and much larger segment is composed of migrating fish which summer on Nantucket Shoals but winter and spawn from Rhode Island south. Starting about the middle of October and continuing through December, large bodies of these cod migrate westward and southward along the southern New England and Middle Atlantic states. They seem to travel through the New York Bight area in waves, each remaining a week or two, then continuing farther southward. This migration through northern New Jersey's waters stops after December. There follows then a period of relative scarcity until the return migration during March, April and early May. Most of these are adults, i.e., fish weighing 5 pounds or more, and they contribute most to the spawning, which is heaviest in November and December, but continues into the spring. The third segment of cod is composed of a small number of large fish which migrate from New England into the Middle Atlantic region during the winter. Probably originating in the deep water of the Gulf of Maine and off the southern side of Georges Bank, these fish apparently make up the bulk of 30 to 50 pounders. During spring they return eastward to their summer home in the deep water.

As always, there is a danger in attempting to simplify the complicated movements and habits of an entire species of fish, but remember, these observations are the collective brainwork of over 50 of this area's top fishing minds, so their opinion deserves some respect.

Factoring in the Tolten's position on the 15 fathom curve, it's a fairly popular wreck since she's an equal distance from both Manasquan and Barnegat Inlets. It's a good spot to try for cod when they're favoring the water temperature of the 90 foot depths, and you'll also find ling, blackfish and sea bass in season. Bluefish have been known to congregate around the Tolten in fair numbers from the early summer through the late fali, and don't discount the smaller marauding members of the tuna clan in August, September and October. Refer to the inset box for specific details of the Tolten's whereabouts.

Next week we're going to take a short hop about four nautical miles to the S/SW of the Tolten's final resting place and visit a tanker that met an untimely demise only three days before the Tolten went down, also at the hands of a German U-Boat: the wreck of the Gulf Trade.

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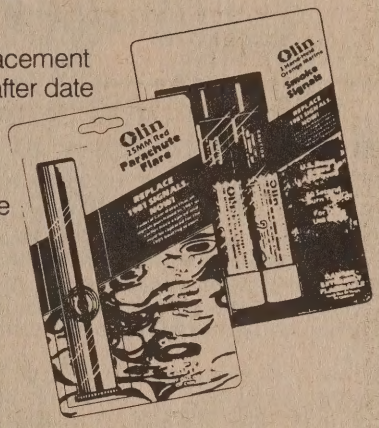

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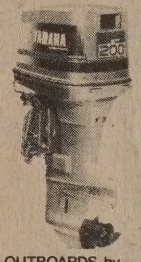

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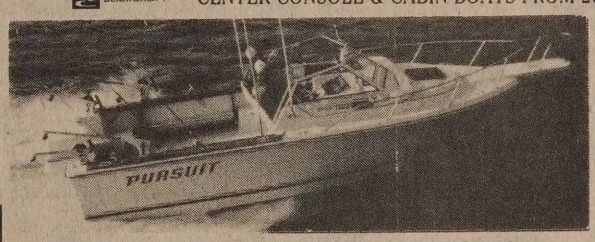

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"TIN BOAT" SERENADE

by Fred Golofaro

Anglers in small aluminum boats steal quietly among the boulders of Long Island's north shore.

The beach was desolate except for a lone surfman whose ghost-like movements betrayed his presence and the eerie silence was broken only by the sounds of feeding stripers crusing among tightly-packed schools of sand eels.

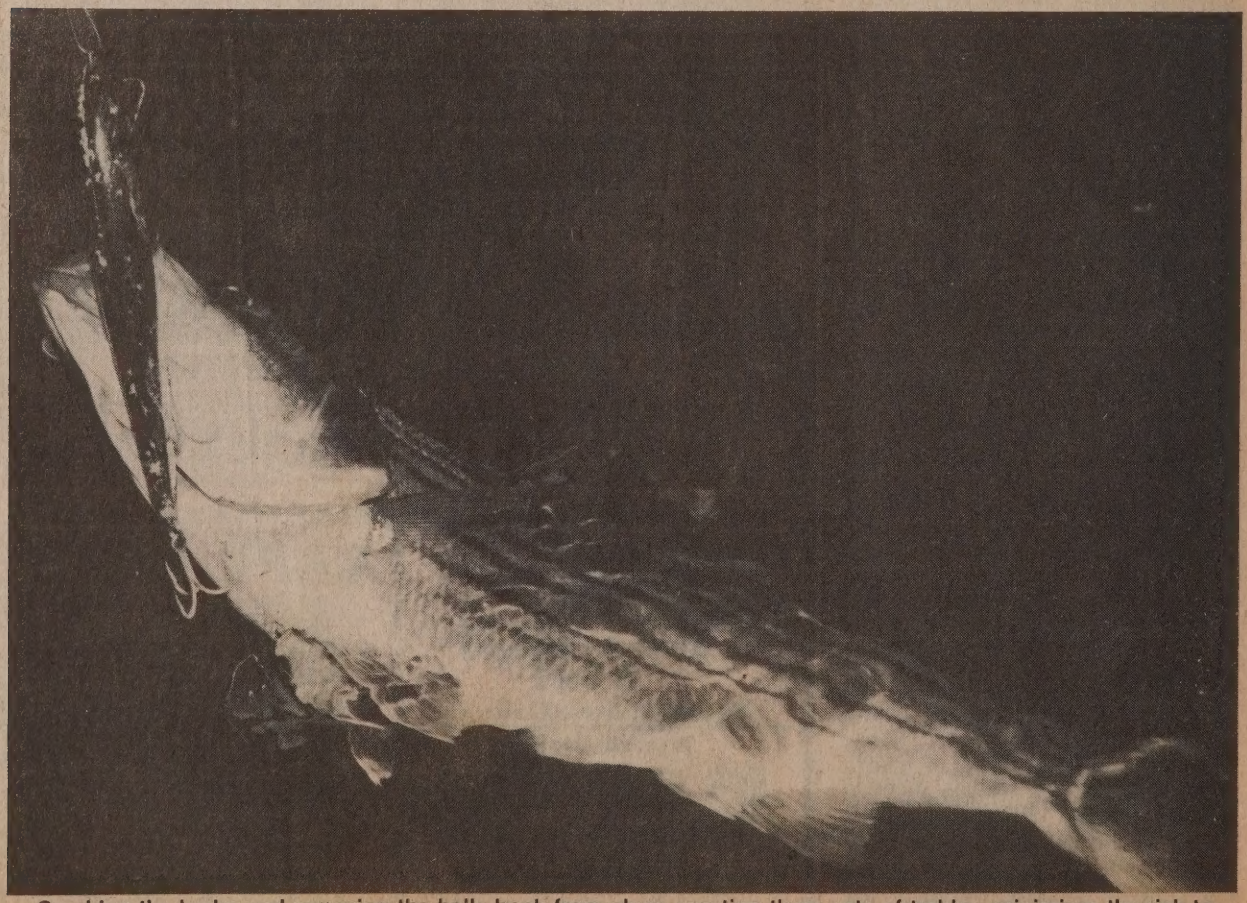
The explosion behind my plug caught me totally off guard. Lulled by the quiet and solitude, the strike seemed almost out of place. The screeching drag brought me back to reality in a hurry and the 7½ foot rod soon took command of a husky twelve pound striper.

I wasn't so lucky with the next fish. There was a huge boil in the light of a waning moon as the striper inhaled the fragile minnow-shaped swimmer and made a beeline for deeper water. The bonefish-like run, triggered by the shallow water, covered nearly one hundred feet and culminated in a wild, thrashing surface show. While certainly entertaining, these antics also cost me the fish as I retrieved a plug with two straightened hooks and the belly hook missing. Such are the odds when a good size striper intervenes in these shallow, boulder studded waters. More times than not, the fish will simply run you around the nearest rock in a rude and abrupt departure.

While a good portion of striper country is suffering from depleted stocks, Long Island Sound's striper population, bolstered by rebounding Hudson River stocks, is doing just fine. The newly imposed 24 inch New York State minimum size limit and more recently enacted two fish bag limit, should ensure that these fish will be around for some time to come.

Along much of the Island's north shore, a small group of "tin boat" (aluminum boats in the 13 to 16 foot range) anglers work rocky points such as Motts, Prospect, Lloyds, Eatons, Cranes and Mt. Misery. While the after dark hours are favored by most, the evening and early morning hours produce some very good action at times. While the preferred method to take fish in these areas is to troll whole sand worms in the wake of a small electric motor, a small but growing segment of these anglers who prowl the night are opting for the challenge and excitment of plugging these fish.

If you want to be successful at this game, there are a few ground rules, that if followed, can improve your odds of getting some action dramatically. Number one is to move slowly and quietly—that means you as well as the boat. The fish you'll be stalking will rarely have more than a few feet of water over their heads. Use oars or an electric motor to approach the area you intend to fish and if you



Crushing the barbs and removing the belly hook from plugs sporting three sets of trebles, minimizes the risk to released fish.

choose to drop an anchor, do it with as little noise and commotion as possible.

Number two is get to know the area you intend to fish in the daylight. Become familiar with the location of boulders, rips and eddies, both for safety's sake and for locating the most productive fishing spots.

Being courteous towards and respectful of other boatmen or surf casters already working an area will earn you their respect and possibly a helpful hint somewhere down the road. Infringing on someone else's "territory" will make for a miserable night for all concerned. This is not the type of fishing you do in a crowd—if you like company while you're fishing, your time will be far better spent following the fleet around the "Eaton's Neck Triangle" during the daylight hours.

Tackle can be either spinning or baitcasting with rods from seven on up to nine feet used by regulars at this game. Reels comparable to the Penn 710Z, 550 SS or Shimano 4000 and filled with 12 lb. mono are adequate if you choose to go with spinning. Many of the mid-size baitcasting reels on today's market, fitted with 12 to 15 pound mono, work out nicely and provide additional control should you encounter a large striper. While most of the action will be confined to schoolies, including a good percentage of shorts, there has also been a fair number of ten to thirty pound class fish spread along these same beaches in recent years. You're also likely to encounter weakfish and blues on these same after dark forays, though the better bluefishing is often found in the early morning or evening hours.

Plug selection can vary greatly according to your own preferences, but keep in mind that the lures you decide to throw must be suited to your outfit. Minnow-shaped swimmers in the 5½ inch size range, such as the Hellcat, Rebel, RedFin and Bomber are favored by many casters and are particularly effective after dark. Poppers and Pencil Poppers in the one to two ounce range account for plenty of fish in the evenings and mornings while metal lipped surface swimmers such as the Atom, Super Strike, and Danny will account for fish under daylight and after dark.

Also, since you will encounter a number of "short" stripers (less than 24") with this approach, you may want to consider crushing the barbs of your hooks and possibly even removing the middle or belly hook from swimming plugs adorned with three sets of trebles. Both steps will make releasing fish a whole lot easier for you and will reduce the risk of damage to the fish.

If quiet nights and solitary shores trimmed with rolling stripers sound appealing to you, give this brand of casting action a try. There are few better ways to spend a summer's night than under the stars on Long Island Sound.

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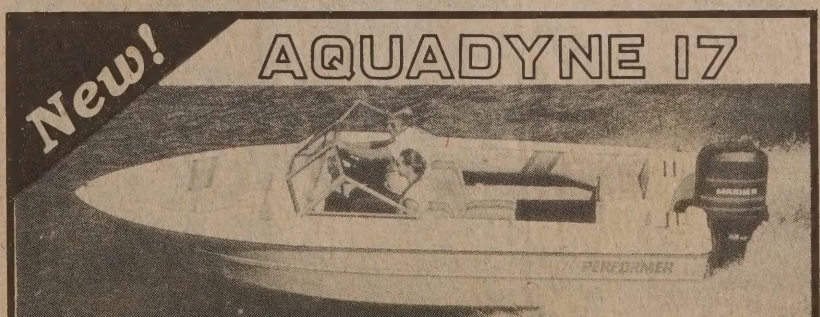

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EASY TAIL ROPES

by Pete Barrett

Here's how to make a simple, but efficient tail rope that won't fail you at boatside.

Some of the best heart pounding action while shark fishing takes place right at boat side. Sure, the jumps are great, but there's that twang of danger when you finally get your 200 lb. mako within gaffing range and he looks you right in the eye.

You're planning to stick him with some cold metal and he's probably planning on how he can stick it to you with a mouthful of razor sharp teeth! Even after numerous makos, that tight feeling in your stomach doesn't go away. Can you ever be sure what they will do?

With a good crew the angler would walk the fish up alongside the stern quarter leading the fish with the rod tip to within the grasp of the leader man. Firm, but gentle pulling on the leader should bring the fish within range of the flying gaff so the gaffer can sink the fly head deep into the fish.

Usually, all hell breaks loose the moment the gaff penetrates. Some sharks dive only to be abruptly stopped by the short length of the flying gaff rope. Others stay on the surface splashing wildly, soaking everyone as the fish tries to twist and turn to get free of the piercing gaff hook. Others seem to be looking over their shoulder in an attempt to focus on whoever has done this dirty deal to them.

One she-mako we had last year actually did a back flip seeming to try to come in the boat with us. Her head hit the top of the rear stern quarter deck, teeth scraping fiberglass like fingernails on a chalk board, finally falling off and back into the sea.

If everything has gone right, one or two crew members will haul in on the flying gaff rope to lift the tail partly out of the water so another crewman can slip a waiting tail rope around the tail and then pull it tight against the caudal peduncle. This is no small feat in the face of 200 or more pounds of angry, thrashing shark. They often don't stand still for further insults from fishermen.

The right tail rope, however, makes the job easier. The wrong rope may lose you a fish. Among the best tail ropes are the simple home-made style with an eye splice at one end.

The eye splice is very easy to lay into the line and it is exceptionally strong. When the fibers are wet the rope will slide up tight for a fast, unyielding grip on the shark's tail base.

To be prepared for all kinds of sharking situations, I have several lengths of ropes made up and ready. They vary from 6 feet to 20 feet and can be used for not only tail roping the shark, but also for hauling the catch aboard with additional ropes secured around the head and body so more crew members can lift a heavy fish.

Once aboard the ropes are tightened firmly around head and tail and then secured to cleats to keep the shark stretched tight in case he lights up on the way back to the dock.

Some ropes have an eye splice at both ends. One forms the tail rope loop; the other is secured to a cleat in case you can't hold onto the rope and the shark starts kicking wildly.

The same ropes are used later in the season for hauling aboard bigeye tuna or they could be used for securing a giant bluefin to be towed to the dock.

I've seen tail ropes made up with various kinds of hardware to make so-called "better" tail ropes, yet after

Tail rope securely anchored to a spring line cleat holds this 400 pound tiger. Another shark is secured off the bow rail.

using several types I've settled on the simple eye splice design as the best. Cable loops, shackles, snaps and other kinds of hardware used in the expensive designs often prevented the loop from drawing tightly closed and a tail could actually slip right through the large loop. The hardware seemed to get in the way and didn't grip as tightly as the eye splice. Even a large mako has a caudel peduncle of only 12 inches in diameter and too much hardware just won't close tightly on such a small area.

Another drawback of the hardware type tail ropes is the way they can wreck the sides of your boat. If you use a flying gaff on your shark before shooting him, the metal hardware can scratch the sides of your gel coat badly as the shark twists and turns until subdued. It's bad enough that the flying gaff can do a job on the gel coat, the hardware on a tail rope can do even more damage from a twisting shark.

Crazy and unpredictable things can happen with guns—like blowing the hook free from the impact of the round, slicing the leader as you shoot into the head area or only stunning the shark for a moment and later having the fish light up while you struggle with a half secured tail rope.

A well experienced crew can shoot its mako catch with safety, speed and efficiency. If you don't catch many makos or are new to shark fishing, the flying gaff is the alternative. It's the method I use most of the time. Once subdued and tail roped, our catch is then "calmed down" with a dose of 30-06.

Use half inch 3-strand nylon line to make the ropes. It is helpful to wrap masking tape around each free strand to keep it from unraveling while you make the required tucks and wraps. The eye should be about 2 to 4 inches, the splicing wraps made with at least 6 tucks around the standing part of the rope. Cut the tag ends of the three strands so only a half inch still protrudes through the last tuck.

To neatly finish the splice you can lightly burn the ends of the strands. Heat will melt the nylon and will prevent the tag ends from unraveling. If you want to be up to Navy standards use a whip finish around the standing part of the line and cover the tag ends.

One word of caution: be sure to wash the tail ropes after each time you use them on a shark. I made the mistake of stowing ropes in my dock box once—unwashed—and still don't know how the smell didn't blow the lid off. After two days the shark blood and skin slime still left on the ropes had cooked into a nose holding aroma.

Tail ropes are an essential part of shark fishing. While there are many variations, you should try several kinds and lengths to find which works the best for you and your style of shark fishing. The right tail rope can make the difference between a trophy and a story about "the one that got away."

EYE SPLICE

This is the best and strongest way of forming a loop in the end of rope. It seems complicated to make, but with practice it's easier to tie than it appears.

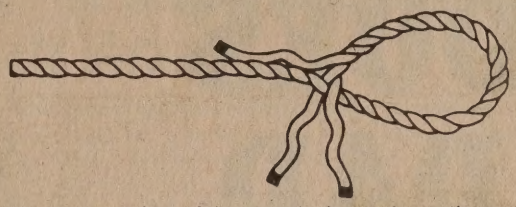

Figure 1: Unwind about one foot of the strands that make up the end of the rope. Double the end of the rope back, and put one strand under any wrap of the standing part of the rope. Where you begin this determines the size of the loop formed.

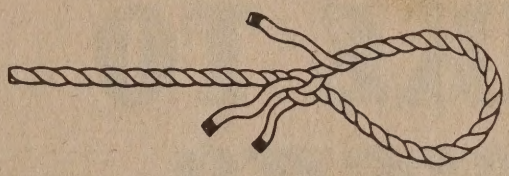

Figure 2: Put another strand of rope under the wrap just above the first wrap.

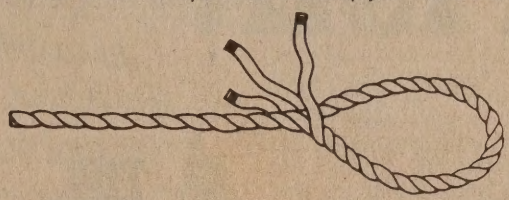

Figure 3: Turn the loop over ...

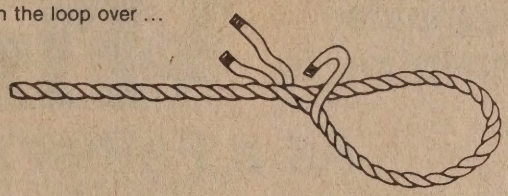

Figure 4: ...and put the third strand of rope under the next wrap farther up the standing part of the rope. (A spike, nail or even an ice pick is useful in lifting the wraps of the rope to insert the rope's strands under them.)

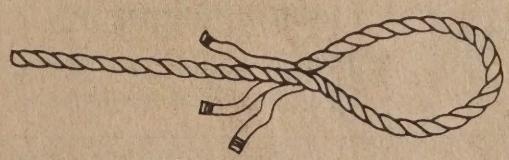

Figure 5: Pull all three strands of rope taut.

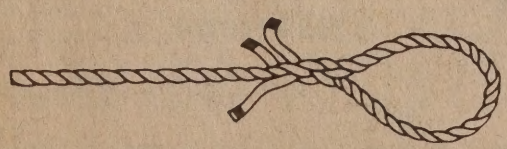

Figure 6: Continue alternately inserting the strands of rope under the wraps of the standing part of the rope. Do not tuck two strands of rope under the same wrap on the standing part of the line.

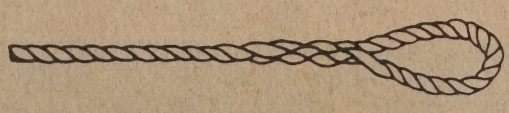

Figure 7: The completed Eye Splice. At least three tucks should be made by each strand under different wraps of the standing part of the rope. Trim the strands when they become too short to make another tuck under the rope's wraps.

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EGO & THE FISHERMAN

by Matt Ahern

Pogo was absolutely right when he said, "We have met the enemy and they are us."

Take, for instance, the phone call I received the other day from an aggravated Deer Park fisherman. I'll name him Joe because to raise the spectre of embarrassment is not my purpose. Joe is a newcomer to our sport chiefly because of his doctor's orders to get out in God's sunshine and fresh air as often as possible. And because he is a newcomer, he always makes it a point to seek aid from his fellow fishermen when possible. All in all, he was quite happy with his newfound sport—happy, that is, until the day before he called.

Joe had been flounder fishing in Shinnecock Canal and while he wasn't knocking 'em dead, he was nailing a fish from time to time. And then it happened. An unknown fisherman moved in beside Joe and in minutes, this fellow was giving advice to all and sundry on how to catch flounder. Every successful flounder-catching trick taught to Joe by veteran fishermen was ridiculed. Those silly old-timers, Joe was told, didn't know a damned thing about fishing. By this time, said Joe, he felt like tossing this obnoxious character into the canal, but because of medical orders to avoid stress, Joe sensibly gave up his spot and fished some distance away. Even then, he said, he could still hear the smart-aleck, only this time the subject had been changed to the fine points of flounder fishing. Eventually, two fed-up fishermen walked over to the bore, said a few heated words, and walked away. Joe said he couldn't hear the exact words quoted, but evidently it was an ultimatum of sorts, for, to a chorus of boos, the big-mouth packed up and left.

Joe wanted to know if there are many know-it-alls like that character in the fishing game. If there were, he said, he'd maybe think about giving it up.

I don't believe there are, and this is what I told Joe. But there are some. I know this because not only have I witnessed similar experiences, but the guy whose words you are reading right now was also a smart-aleck in his early fishing career.

I've decided to bring forth my shame and tell you about it. In order to do so, I'm going to re-tell a story I wrote some years ago entitled "Cast The First Stone." I've changed a few words here and there, but the story is basically the same. At the time, I received much comment about it and therefore, perhaps it is time for a repeat.

One morning last week (begins the story) I drifted for fluke in Shinnecock Bay. The weather was beautiful; unusually so. But you know what happens on such glorious days—the fishing was only fair. I caught three keepers and the expected three-to-one ratio of throwbacks.

When I returned to the fishing station, I noticed three fishermen just leaving their skiff. Upon inquiry, I was told they hadn't caught so much as one throwback. Well, I said, that's the way it goes sometimes. But when I glanced at their terminal tackle, the

"Should you become misguided and assume you know "everything" about fishing, you're only kidding yourself."

reason for their poor fishing was readily apparent. No self-respecting fluke would ever go near such poorly thought-out rigs. Had they gone porgy fishing, they'd have had it made.

But that's all right, for who among us is perfect? In as nice a way as possible, I showed them where they had made their serious rigging mistakes. I then gave each fisherman on of my homemade fluke rigs, explained how to use them, wished them luck next time out, and walked to my car. All well and good.

As I was stowing my gear in the car's trunk, a young fellow I'd seen loitering in the background came up to me, a huge grin on his face. "Did you see those jerks?" he asked. "Tryin' to catch fluke rigged like that! I've been fishin' two whole years now," he bragged, "and I always catch fluke. Never miss. But I'll be damned if I'd go out of my way to set them straight. Just two jerks!"

In seconds, my Irish blood boiled, for to me no fisherman is ever a "jerk." And this is what I told this character—in no uncertain terms.

"Look, old-timer, don't race your motor. You wanna make yourself sick? You do your thing and I'll do mine." And he walked away.

Is this attitude typical of today's young fishermen? No—I wouldn't say so. Not at all typical. But occasionally we do have the bad luck to meet such "fishermen." I suppose these fellows have been around since cave men caught fish with their hairy arms.

I ought to know about such fellows, for one time as a young fisherman I was what one could call a reasonable facsimile. Perhaps not as feisty as that particular specimen, but obnoxious in my own way. I was unaware of this, of course, and only the good Lord knows how long I would have continued along this path had I not been shown the error of my ways by a fellow fisherman who really cared. Matt Smith was his name. I've written about Matt several times in these stories and articles over the years, for this kindly, soft-spoken gentleman was my mentor and tutor for many years as I wended my way along the road to better fishing.

I first met Matt in 1926 when I was 12-years of age and we hit it off immediately. For many years we went fishing at every opportunity and I knew he was always amused at my interpretations of the fishing game. When I erred, he set me straight. And because of this I owe his memory a debt I can never repay. Matt Smith set a fine example for any eager, young fisherman.

At the time, Matt was a hard-working Brooklyn plumber, a husband and father. But no matter how exhausted from his daily labors, he seemed genuinely happy to have me visit him each evening after supper, whereupon we would discuss fishing trips, past, present, and intended. Oh!—the plans and assaults we made on those fish! Our friendship continued for many years and to this day the recollection of those evenings remain one of the brightest of all the bright spots in my fishing life.

Each evening I would walk the three blocks to Matt's house and find him seated in his favorite easy chair. I, too, was given a favorite chair, which Matt's twin daughters teasingly referred to as "Matt's chair." ("We keep it polished just for you, Matt.")

Matt and I would sit across from each other and discuss the pros and cons of fishing as we knew it and at times, as I grew older, delving into fishing mysteries neither of us could solve. It was most enjoyable and no matter how troubled the discussion might become, Matt never exceeded

(Continued on next page.)

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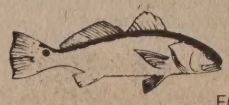

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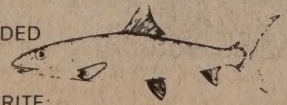

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the bounds of propriety.

Until one evening.

I no longer recall what was being discussed, but something mentioned caused me to think back and I began to laugh.

"What's funny?" Matt asked. "Something I said?"

"No. Just something funny I saw happen the other day." And I laughed again.

"Tell me about it," Matt said. "I can use a laugh."

"Well...you remember I told you about that party boat fluke trip I made last week. The good fishing, and all that." And its thought caused me to laugh once more. "Well, there's this guy, see; one of the passengers—a real pilgrim. I don't think he knew on which end of the hook to put his bait. I made sure to keep as far away from him as I could because he was sure messing things up for everyone around.

"Anyway, along about two o'clock or so, this guy yells out 'Help! Help! Help me!' One of the fellers nearby yells out: 'Get the gaff! Quick! The guy's got a big fluke!' I take a look and this pilgrim has a real big fluke on top of the water—maybe 12 pounds. The mate yells back for him to keep the fish in the water, he'll be right there. All the time this guy is going 'Oo-o-o! O-o-o-o!' But he can't wait and he tries to lift the fish over the rail. Well...that was the end of that. Goodbye fluke! Some dope!" And I began to laugh again.

But there was no return laughter from Matt. I could see the muscles of his face working as he sought to control himself. "You thought that was funny, eh? It made you laugh, did it? It amused you that some poor guy lost a big fish because he didn't know what to do? Is that what it was? Matt, I'm ashamed of you!"

I didn't know what to say; certainly things hadn't gone as I had hoped. "Well...," I began. But Matt cut me short.

"I think you better go home. But before you leave, let me ask something. Do you remember four years or so ago when you were about thirteen and you wanted to learn how to cast, and how I took you to Canarsie Beach and let you use my surfcasting gear? Remember the difficulty, the bird's-nest backlashes, how mad you got when what you thought was so easy wasn't easy at all? You had tears in your eyes that day, Matt. Did I poke fun at you? Did I?"

"Well...no."

"All right. Go home now. Think about what I said. And remember this: you're no better than anyone else, therefore, you have no right to cast the first stone. The door's always open to you, Matt, but first I think you better mend your ways."

To say I was chastened, is to put it mildly. My spirit was devastated. It took all of three weeks for me to work up enough courage to resume my evening visits. And in all the years that followed after that never-to-be-

forgotten evening, the subject, as if by mutual consent, was never mentioned again. I was thankful for that morsel of comfort, for I didn't know if I could have taken it again. I knew only that I had proved a disappointment to Matt Smith, whom I regarded as a second father.

But I did learn to mend my ways. It required some doing, for some habits are indeed difficult to break.

Since then, I've met several fishermen with similar attitudes, as I said. And the surprising thing is that they are always young. Advanced fishermen, especially old-timers, have long since given up their know-it-all attitudes (if they ever had them to begin with).

Usually though, if someone does not get to these youngsters in time, many decide to drop out of the fishing game and brighten a corner elsewhere. This is, of course, our loss, for oddly enough, these young fellows are generally good fishermen. And it is this skill which causes the trouble, for it often leads to a monumental ego, which to my way of thinking, makes these youngsters their own worst enemy.

It is quite possible there are one or two young fishermen out there with that oversized ego who are reading these words right now, young fishermen who need a "talking to." Actually, I hope there are none, but should there be, let me say a few words. Certainly they can believe it is coming from the Voice of Experience.

First of all, fellers, remember no man knows all there is to know about fishing. On those slow days, I sometimes think man knows absolutely nothing about fish! I've put in more than 60 years proving this to myself. So, should you become misguided and assume you know "everything" about fishing, you're only kidding yourself.

Right about now I can almost hear these young fishermen saying: "Look who's talking about ego and all that kind of stuff! You certainly have one." How true. Actually, the only human I know who hasn't an ego is in his grave. But whether you keep that ego in check, or allow it to run hog-wild is up to you. Don't misunderstand—please. A little ego is good for all fishermen; it's what keeps you and me from becoming dull clods. But let that same ego run to excess and you'll quickly find that to everyone around us, we are nothing more than obnoxious, opinionated jackasses. No one will listen, anyway. But if you keep a low profile, everyone will think you're positively brilliant. Then when you spout about fishing, you'll at least get that attention you desire so much. (Just kidding in those last two sentences.)

I'll leave you with this: Remember what Matt Smith told me, "...you have no right to cast the first stone." Excellent advice, for none of us is without blemish.

If the above applies to you (and I hope not), I have one more thing to say: Go and sin no more.

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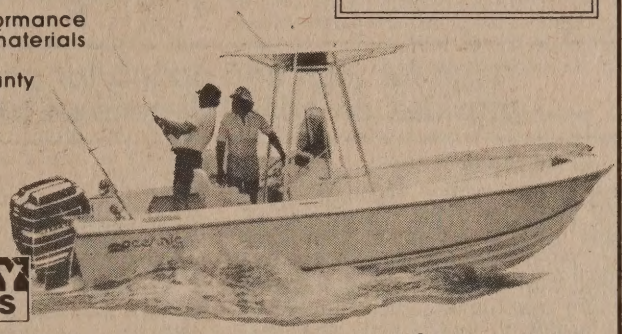

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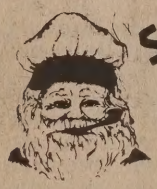

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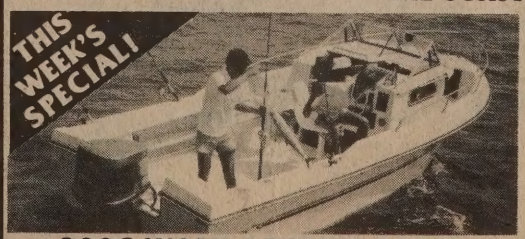

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THE BRONZE BRAWLER

by Angelo Peluso

"Inch for inch and pound for pound, the toughest fish around" provides an added dimension to the Island's freshwater scene.

A few years back I participated in a bass fishing contest organized by a local bass club. The "catch and release" event was held on Montauk's Fort Pond. With partially overcast skies, most competing anglers were hopeful that the largemouth would be responsive to their lures, and thus sought out the traditional big bass hideaways. But on this day the bucketmouth would not prevail. One lucky bassmaster saw to that. His fine catches of smallmouth bass was substantial enough to take home the day's honors.

To the newcomer on the Long Island freshwater bass fishing scene, the fact that the smallmouth also makes its home here may come as a pleasant surprise. Nonetheless, **Micropterus dolomieui** has chosen to take up residence within both Fort Pond and Shelter Island's Fresh Pond. There are some other scattered populations of smallmouth on the Island, but none with as significant a presence as those in the above mentioned ponds. It is ironic, but at one time it was rumored that Fresh Pond was to be targeted for reclamation. It wasn't until local anglers described an upsurge in smallmouth activity, indicating a revitalization of the lake, that the project was scrapped. Lucky thing for all parties concerned, the fish as well as the fishermen.

Fort Pond has remained a consistent producer of Long Island "smallies," and many fine fish have come from its waters. An angling buddy of mine caught a lunker smallmouth from its haunt within the pond that weighed in at 5 lbs. 1 oz. That is certainly a nice fish anywhere in the state. Though 5 lb. plus fish are not very common, this catch is indicative of the growth potential. It is difficult to speculate on the upper limit of size, but a reasonable guesstimate would be somewhere around 6 pounds. It wouldn't at all come as a surprise if a fish somewhat larger were to be caught.

Though limited in scope and range due to their confinement within but a few bodies of water, the smallmouth can still offer fine sport to those who endeavor to take pursuit. The bronzeback is an unquestionable brawler and its fighting qualities, once experienced, are not forgotten. The fish is a magnificent aerial performer whose jumps quite often dislodge the annoying hook and toss it back into the angler's lap. It was the smallmouth that inspired Dr. James Hendshall's immortal quote citing the fish as the toughest "inch for inch and pound for pound."

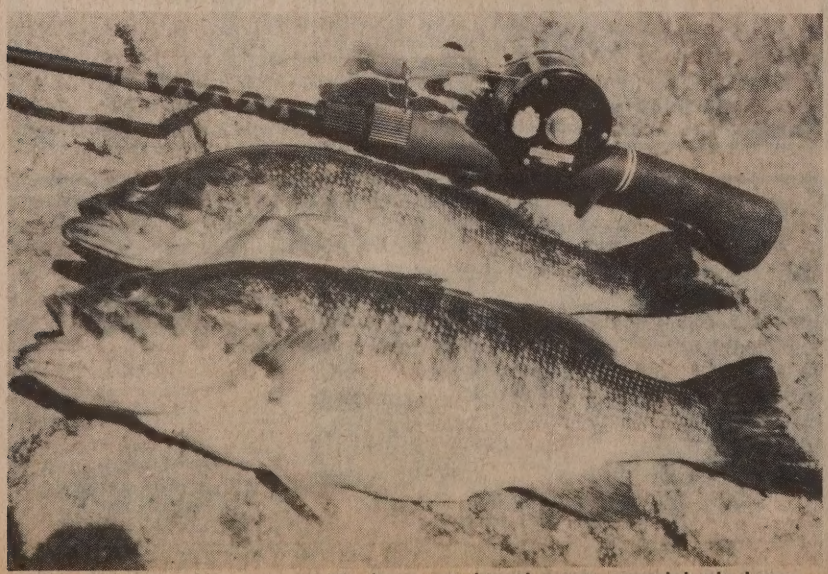
Let's now take a look at this superb game fish. The smallmouth was native originally within the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River and the Ohio, Tennessee and upper Mississippi Rivers. It has since been stocked in all areas of North America. Though a member of the sunfish family, as is its closest relative, the largemouth, the smallmouth is quite different. Its physical characteristics are the most obvious, and it can be distinguished from the largemouth in the following ways:

- The upper jaw of the smallmouth extends to the middle of the eye, whereas in the largemouth it extends beyond.
- The cheek scales are smaller than those of the largemouth.
- Blotch-type stripes appear on the body of the smallmouth.
- On the smallmouth, there is a shallow notch between the dorsal fins (the largemouth has a deep notch). In addition, the smallie has 14 soft dorsal rays.
- The smallmouth's coloration takes on a bronze hue, hence the nickname "bronzeback."

Unlike its big-mouthed brother, the smallmouth prefers colder water over a sandy or gravel bottom. Additionally, this bass also prefers moving water and in some instances rapidly moving water; smallmouth bass, therefore, do take up residence in streams, rivers and in such locations as dam spillways.

The smallie is also attracted to rock-type structure, either visible to the angler or the sub-surface variety. Structure formations of this type are the primary fish attractors within Long Island's smallmouth waters. Rocks that are located in or around deep water (15 to 25 feet) should be investigated as potentially productive hotspots. Fort Pond has several such locations.

The fishing techniques used for smallmouth bass are somewhat different than those used for the largemouth. The angling differences are primarily attributed to differences in habitat and basic habits of the fish. Though both basses are warm water species, the smallmouth has a marked preference for "cooler" water. In Long Island waters this means that you will probably find them in deeper locations, on average, than you would the largemouth. Within the spring fed ponds of Long Island, locating the spring itself can be very rewarding. This is a natural fish attractor which,



Long Island lakes and ponds have produced some surprisingly large smallmouths over the years.

in essence, provides the smallmouth with a temperature controlled environment. Should the spring be located in deep water, have some form of structure near it and be positioned with access to shallow water, you might very well have found a smallmouth "honey hole." The deep water and structure provide the bass with a sanctuary; the spring's cool waters create the right comfort zone; and the shallow water access facilitates feeding migrations.

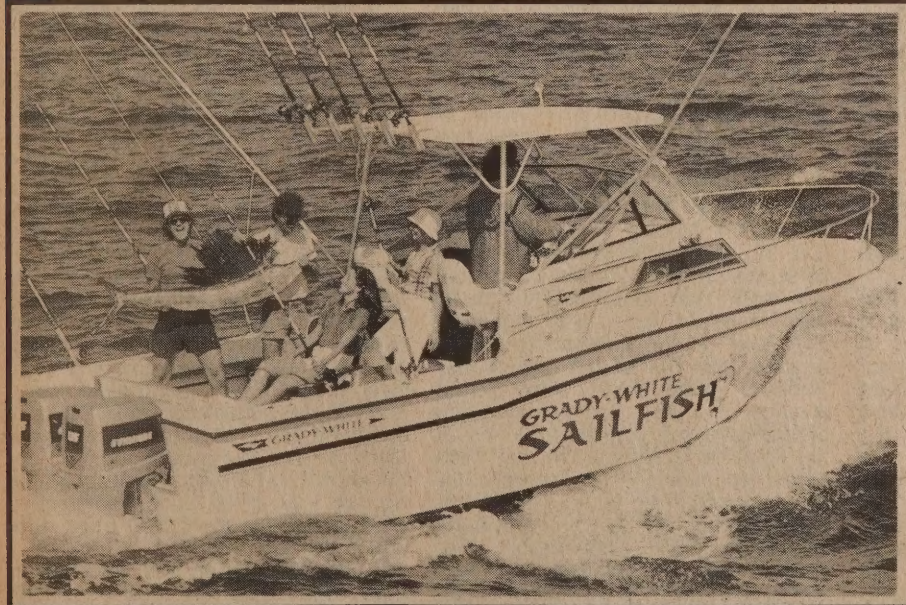
Many of the lures, bait and techniques that are successfully used for largemouth bass will also work quite well on the smallmouth. For Long Island bronzeback fishing, I am partial to crankbaits, sinking minnow-type plugs (Rebels, Rapalas) and small jigs or grub tails. My number one favorite is the Rebel Wee R or Super R crankbaits in white or crawdad color. These plugs will rest motionless on the surface until a retrieve begins. Then they dive to depths of between 5 to 15 feet (depending on the speed of the retrieve and the size of the plug's lip). If rock structure is present, a proven technique is to cast the crankbait beyond the rock or set of rocks and retrieve so that the plug passes close to the rock and is diving toward the bottom. Manipulation of the lure through retrieve speed control and tip action is the key. My choices of white for the plug's color is due to the prevalence of white perch in much of Long Island's freshwater. A versatile selection of crankbaits is advisable for fishing Long Island smallmouth areas. One's arsenal should include a variety of plugs, each of which will swim in a different depth range.

Another good plug choice is the sinking minnow-type lure. It can be cast and allowed to sink to the desired depth before the retrieve is begun. Some of the largest smallmouth bass taken from Long Island waters have succumbed to this plug. Fished in the "countdown" fashion, the plug can be used to search out different depths for bass. This system is quite simple, Just cast the plug and allow it to sink while you count off seconds. Your counting corresponds to the rate of the plug's descent. For each successive cast, count a bit higher before retrieving. This is an easy way to work a deep stretch of water and pattern your search for the fish. A silver and black or a silver and blue pattern seem to be the most productive. So does the brown and black variety. I guess that these color combinations work well for me because they are ones that are most often tied to the end of my line.

Full sized plastic worms, 6 to 8 inches, don't seem to be as appealing to the smallmouth as they are to the largemouth. Yet, I have had success with small, four inch versions and little grub tails. Another good choice is the small white grubs that have lifelike, flexible tails which undulate when retrieved. The grub can be rigged either Texas style, with a small hook and slip sinker, or jig style, with the hook protruding through the grub. This little setup can be deadly when smallies are feeding near the bottom. Just cast the grub and let it sink to the bottom. Retrieve it with slow, jigging motions. Occasionally vary the retrieve by long, upward sweeps of the rod. When using the grub tail, be ready for takes as the grub begins its descent.

Last but not least in my arsenal of smallmouth lures are the time-tested spinners. I don't like using large safety pin type spinnerbaits for smallmouth, but I will use the small 1/8 ounce size with a single blade. White, yellow and chartreuse work very well for me. The spinnerbait can be cast and retrieved in a steady fashion or allowed to flutter the bottom and jigged back to the boat. The more conventional spinners, the Mepps and C.P. Swing types also produce fine results. Fished in traditional fashion you simply cast and retrieve, alternately varying speed. For fishing these baits you can also employ the countdown method discussed earlier.

The smallmouth is a superior freshwater gamester. Long Island bass anglers are fortunate to have the opportunity to fish for them. When you get the urge to go freshwater bassin', don't forget to also think smallmouth.



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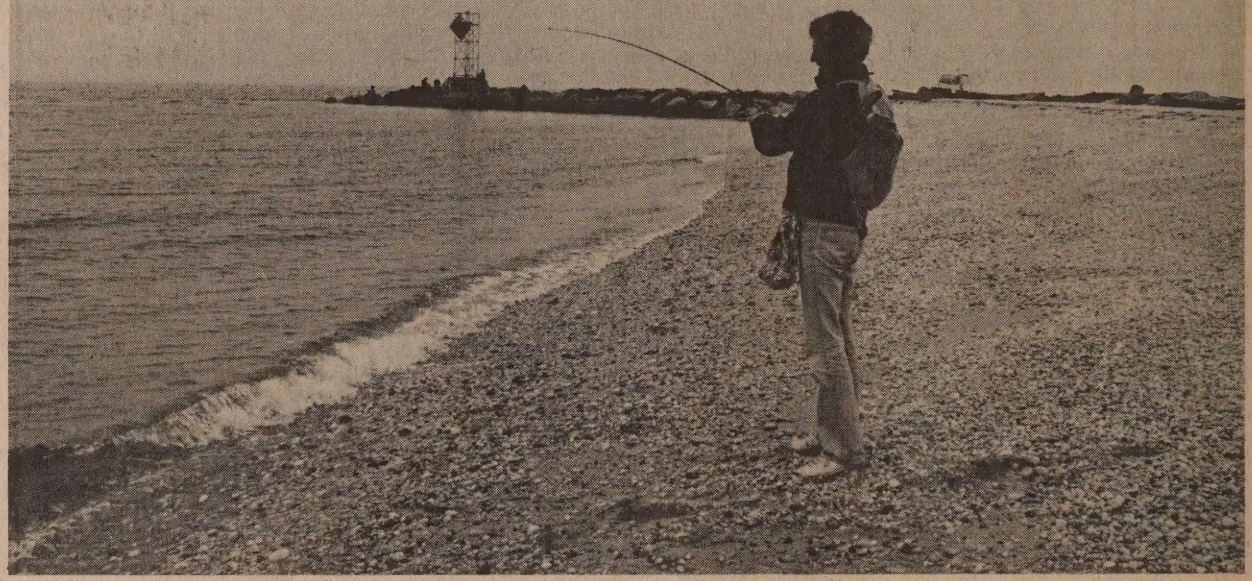
THE LURE OF THE "FAR EAST"

by Marty & Janet Garrell



A traffic counter placed on the Long Island Expressway just west of Exit 70 during the wee hours of a spring morning would probably illustrate an interesting pattern. A sizeable fraction of the vehicles going back and forth undoubtedly have rod racks filled with beach sticks. However, the majority of the beach rats headed east are probably turning onto County 111, headed for the Moriches, Shinnecock, or even Montauk. Relatively few will continue to Riverhead and points east on the North Shore.

Why? To be sure, the inlets and jetties on the South Fork are easier to read than the endless stretches of featureless beaches along the Sound. Neophyte surf fishermen will have company and examples to follow almost any time they ride to the Hamptons or set a spike near the Light at the Point. North Fork regulars are harder to observe.

There's also the problem of access! The crusty rural towns on the North Fork—Riverhead and Southold—are not all that polite to non-resident beachcombers. A lone angler or a pair of fishing partners can more or less find their way and will get welcome advice from shops with North Fork experts behind the counter, Warrens on Main Road, Route 25 in Aquebogue, Jamesport Bait and Tackle on Main Road, Jamesport and the Rocky Point Fishing Stop on Broadway off 25A in Rocky Point. However, when it comes to clubs, large groups, or anglers who want information in a hurry over the telephone, the guys who can't take the time for an obligatory cup of coffee and who are "ticked" because they didn't get to tomorrow's hotspot today, the North Fork is not so kind. A Swamp Yankee attitude runs deep!

Non-residents who fish the beaches in Riverhead may obtain daily ($5) and seasonal ($50) permits for parking from the Town Recreation Bureau in Stotzky Park (727-3200, Ext. 32). The daily permits may also be purchased from Warrens and from Jamesport Bait. Unfortunately, those permits entitle you to park legally in only one lot of interest to beach anglers, Iron Pier at the end of Pier Avenue, going north from Sound Avenue. The other two town beaches of interest to surf anglers are deemed too small to accommodate non-residents; technically Wildwood Park has beach access from sunrise to sunset and its campgrounds are operated by the State Park Commission. For information on this season's arrangements and fees, it's advisable to call 929-4314.

Southold Town further east makes its annual non-resident permits available on a 9AM to 5PM, Monday to Friday basis for $4 at the Town Hall on Main Road in Southold. Non-residents who want to park at the end of any town road in Orient, Southold, East Marion, Mattituck, or Cutchogue are also required to have a non-resident sticker on their cars as well. For more information, call the Town Clerk's Office at 765-1800.

It should be noted that no permits are issued for off-the-road vehicles in either Southold or Riverhead towns, so driving the beaches in a buggy is out of the question. On the North Fork, it's strictly shank's mare and sand or gravel in your shoes!

Those heading east from "the city" might be advised to make their first stop at Rocky Point Shop where Tom Brady or Stan Hentschel can clue you in on what's going on. Incidentally, North Fork natives believe that the New York City Boundary now ends somewhere east of Stony Brook. Says Brady, "We like new people to come on in and talk, to have a cup of coffee. Even if you're not from around here, you can get acquainted in our tackle shop and you'll be accepted....if you learn to keep your mouth shut! If you get known and are accepted, then one day you'll be asked along. We started with (a nucleus of) 4 to 5 guys; it's now a club of 15 to 20."

As far as getting the very latest information goes, the local expertise is very good. For example, "Stan (Hentschel) fishes 6 nights a week. He would fish 7 except that he's married and his wife won't let him."

Ed Kopack at Warrens in Aquebogue advises getting to know the 50 miles of beaches on the North Fork early in the spring when flounder and tautog are first available. This is the simplest type of fishing; worms, clams, and mussels are standard baits, rigged on tandem hooks tied

below a small bank or pincushion sinker of 1 to 3 ounces. Kopack advocates keeping the rig simple by terminating the casting strand with a clip swivel large enough to accommodate both leader loop and sinker. Although much of the best flounder action is from boats fishing 15 to 20 feet of water, both blacks and winter flounder move into shallower water as the spring progresses and can often be caught within an easy 40 yard cast of the beach. One qualifier: that word "easy" is to be taken literally, especially if you use mussel baits. Even with a soft 8 foot spinning stick for the 6 to 10 lb. line classes, you'll have to lob your cast softly to keep the fresh yellow gobs on the hooks, but the fine 1 to 2 lb. flatties are worth the effort.

The sandy beaches near the eastern tip of the fork are popular with spring bottom fishermen, especially in early May, when spawning blackfish begin to mix with flounder and oten show by rolling on top in very shallow water.

In Riverhead's Iron Pier area, mackerel are occasional visitors to the North Fork surf scene when high tides bring them close to the beach on cloudy days or during dawn and evening hours throughout May. Our favorite rig for macs is an ultralight spinner that can toss a 1/4 ounce bucktail 100 feet on a quiet day and push a 1/2 ounce Hopkins out to 50 yards. For variety, all add a small white or yellow streamer in size #2 to #6 a couple of feed ahead of the main attractor. If you fish a teaser on ultralight, you'll want to employ a short shock leader from the gossamer to a barrel swivel. This length of 15 lb. mono running from the tin or bucktail to the barrel serves to suspend the little fly. The improved clinch to the swivel has enough excess, some 8 to 12 inches, to serve as a link to the dropper fly.

Despite the fact that Sound waters are still in the 50s, the first fluke show up off North Fork beaches at the end of May. Long leadered strip baits or sand eel-strip combinations are the general choice, hung along with sinkers from clip swivels, just as the other bottom rigs were. However, anglers who insist on bait for fluking from the beaches may be missing a lot of action on artificials. Thanks to a tip from Bill Czech of Jamesport Bait we've confirmed that early fluke have a definite preference for tiny 1/4 to 4/8 ounce white bucktails, tipped with a pennant of flounder belly, squid or pork rind. These summer flounder are skinny fish, seldom weighing more than 2½ lbs. and they're generally mixed with windowpanes in the Mattituck area.

Occasionally in late June to early July there are rumors of a blast of weakfish on North Fork beaches, but this is so brief that only the regulars ever get in on it. Action on tide-runners is generally far better back west on the North Shore.

Late spring and early summer fishing for the glamor species like striped bass is a hunt and pick situation for the most part. Worms and strip baits are the choice on fish-finder rigs with 3 foot leaders of 30 to 40 lb. test material. Hooks are 3/0 to 5/0, and although gold baitsavers used to be preferred, machine-tied eyeless "platthaken" are now in vogue. The latter allow wrigglers to be slid onto the leader itself, making for a more natural presentation. If you own a tackle store or don't mind springing for a flat of worms, try gobbing the sands or stringing several onto shank and barb. Even if there are no bass around, sea robins and sundials should love you forever!

Those who like a more active game will go to a summer lure assortment where the key word is "small." Whiptails, Tri-Fin eels and small tins are used with considerable success on the rods of transplanted west enders, but the overriding lure of choice is the time-tested Finnish Minnow floater. Standard sizes run 4½ to 6 inches and brands like RedFin, Bomber, Rebel, and Rapala are the most popular in blue/silver, black/silver, and mackerel finishes. Occasionally, wherever tides run a bit strongly, for instance, around either of the two North Fork inlets, a small sinking plug is a better choice. Red Gill teasers seem to be in vogue with the 3 inch Baby Gill tied off a 16 inch dropper about 2½ feet above the floating plug. Bill Czech prefers 30 lb. test Ande off a small black barrel swivel for this "bitter end" rig.

Where tides are gentle and waters clear the standard summer and spring outfit is an 8 to 10 foot spinner with a soft enough tip to handle the lightest lures. Lines in the 10 to 15 lb. class are fine, and large coffee grinders can be backed with 20 lb. if you don't feel like loading 400 yards of 12 onto a fresh spool.

Timing the runs of bass and blues is tricky. Bass show in mid-May for bait fishermen as a rule, although last year was a terrible one for spring linesiders. Early bluefish may also provide surprises in May as well; Kopack recorded a 14 pounder one year, in fact, but this was an exception because the best of the bluefish action is still to come in July and August.

We'll treat the larger lures and tins preferred by North Fork experts in the fall as well as the standard bait rigs for chunks in a companion piece to appear in a later issue of The Fisherman. These topics should make an article all by themselves. By that time we assume that interested readers will have made inquiries in North Fork shops, boned up on NOAA chart #12358 of Shelter Island Sound and the Peconic Bays, and scouted the territory for themselves on low tides this spring.

Those who know what the five points and two inlets west of the Orient Tip look like by night or in the half-light of dusk or dawn will find the fall fishing at least as exciting or even more so than the spring action.

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DOUBLE TROUBLE FLUKE RIG

by Russ Wilson

Few fishermen who probe the salt chuck do not, at one time or another, find themselves doing a bit of drift fishing for fluke. As a rule, the standard technique of rigging a live or dead bait on a single hook which is attached to a three foot leader, three-way swivel and a connecting snap for the sinker, comes into play. There are exceptions, of course, but generally it is the standard fluke rig which gets the nod from most novice fluke fishermen and from others who don't want to go through the time and effort of experimentation.

These store "bought" rigs do catch plenty of fluke, and under most situations they will perform admirably. But, it is the exception that makes fishing for fluke the intriguing game that it is. Those exceptions can cause a grown man to weep and an excitable person to cry outright. We know; we've been there all too often, and will usually switch to another species rather than fight the odds.

In the past two seasons, however, we've hit on a method that sways the odds to our favor. It does not always produce, but more often than not it will help increase your fluke scores.

Sound interesting? Well, it is a technique that is not new or earth-shaking. We simply rig our fluke rods with a bucktail type lure for weight and add a second hook to give the rig some additional appeal to predatory fish such as the ever greedy summer flounder.

The double bait rig is simplicity in itself and anyone who can tie a clinch knot or snell a hook can make the rig from scratch at home or at sea. Of course, when the fishing is hot and heavy, you'll have a little trouble getting the knots tied correctly, but that's half the fun of fishing.

We use the leadhead bucktail as our weight. The actual size will depend on wind, tide and speed of current. I usually carry a selection of weights ranging from a half ounce on up to two and a half or three ounces.

Color is not critical although we will normally tie on a white or yellow that is tied with just a tad of mylar (silver) for added fish attracting appeal. You could substitute blue, green, black or one of the bright greens or oranges and probably enjoy similar results, but since I've used the white and yellow effectively, I can see no reason to experiment.

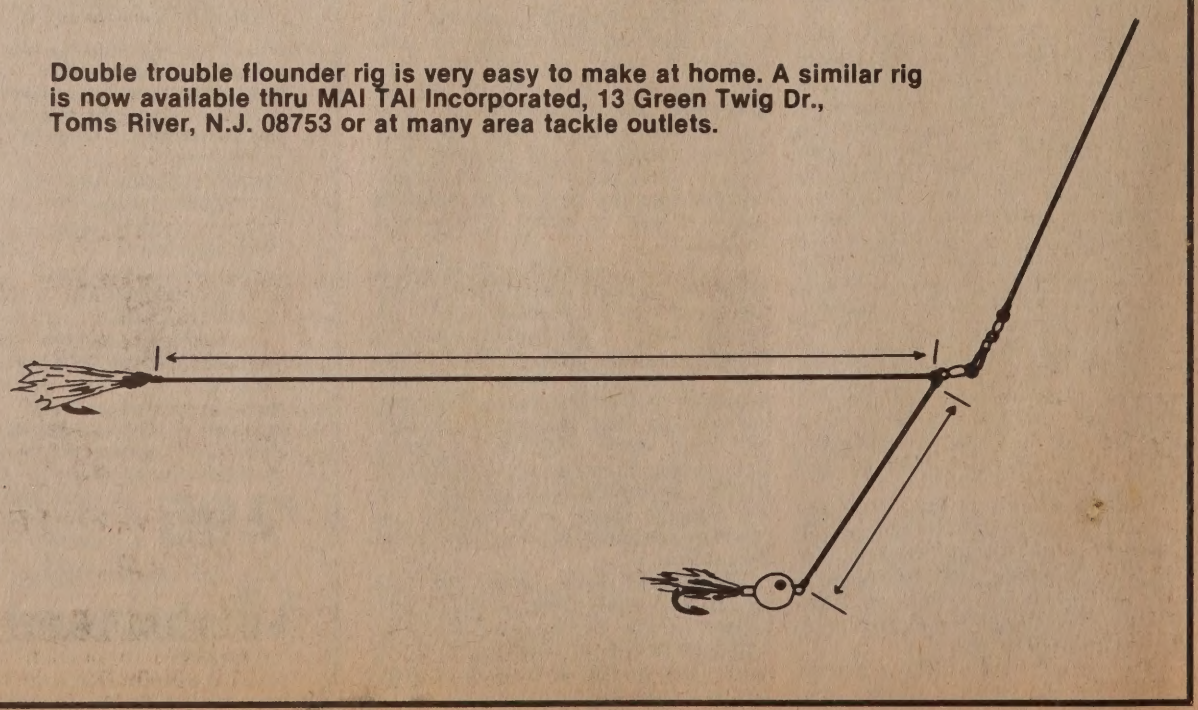
We use the Mai Tai type lure which has a free swinging hook because it gives more action as the boat drags it along on the drift. This does not mean other styles will not produce, only that we find the Mai Tai gets good results for us.

The dropback hook is also finished with bucktail hair but does not have any additional weight to carry it to the bottom. It, too, is tied with white or yellow bucktail and a few strands of silver mylar for flash.

I like to set the dropback bucktail at least 30 inches behind the weighted bucktail. This allows it to drift off the bottom but still well within the sight of fluke which are actively feeding beneath the surface.

The vast majority of experienced fluke fishermen find their best results are enjoyed when drift fishing and for that reason alone this rig is a killer. The weighted bucktail drags bottom and as it bounces and bumps across the broken terrain it kicks up puffs of sand which bring the summer flatfish

Double trouble flounder rig is very easy to make at home. A similar rig is now available thru MAI TAI Incorporated, 13 Green Twig Dr., Toms River, N.J. 08753 or at many area tackle outlets.



in a hurry. If they miss the weighted Mai Tai they will certainly see the unweighted bucktail and will usually swim over for a look-see.

We use strip baits such as squid, bluefish, fluke belly or back or whatever else is available as a bait on the Mai Tai. On the unweighted bucktail we will nose hook a live killie or go with a strip of squid, fluke belly or a single sand eel.

If there is a key to success when seeking fluke it is proper bait presentation and with the double hook arrangement we find our scores have improved considerably because we can offer a variety of baits while using the same basic terminal rig.

You do not have to impart any action to this rig. The drift of the boat will give the rig its built-in action and when a fish does jump on all you need do is lift the rod and set the hook. You will not miss many fluke that hit the dropper bucktail, but on occasion will drop a few that grab the Mai Tai, but do not get it back into their mouth far enough for a solid hook-up.

The rivers and bays, which normally are shallower than the inshore waters along the coast, can be fished with lighter tackle and the lightweight Mai Tai or similar bucktail type lures. As a rule you can get by with only 1/2 to 1½ ounce lures when fishing waters of less than 20 feet in depth. The lone exception to this rule is when you are working inlets or narrow cuts where the tide is forced through small openings and will, as a result, be running at a faster flow.

Deeper waters such as those found within a half mile of the beach will require a heavier lure. Quite often it will take two to three ounce bucktails to carry the rig to bottom and keep it there as the boat drifts along with the tidal movement.

We've tried several different type leadheads and have not found one that matches the action given by the musket ball style Mai Tai. The standard bucktail (leadhead) with its molded-in hook will get results when used singly, but when it is fished with a dropper some of its natural fish attracting appeal is lost due to the drag of the dropback bait.

Another key to using this two hook arrangement is how it is tied. If you rig the double bucktails with soft monofilament line you cannot impart as snappy a motion as when rigging with stiff monofilament leader material. We normally rig our double fluke killers with 15 to 20 pound stiff mono in a clear finish. Whether or not the clear material has any effect on our catch remains to be seen, but when something works I can't see much reason for trying to improve it.

The musket ball type leadheads are available through most mail order outlets or can be purchased at shore area tackle shops at reasonable cost. The Mai Tai is manufactured by Fred Schrier, Mai Tai Incorporated, 13 Green Twig Drive, Toms River, NJ 08753 and is sold at many bait and tackle shops.

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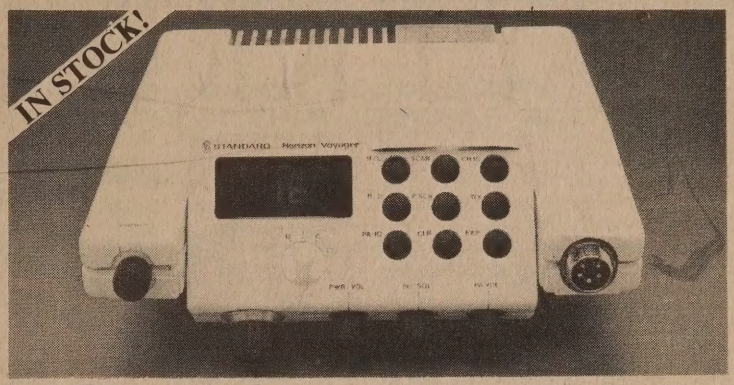

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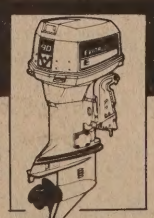

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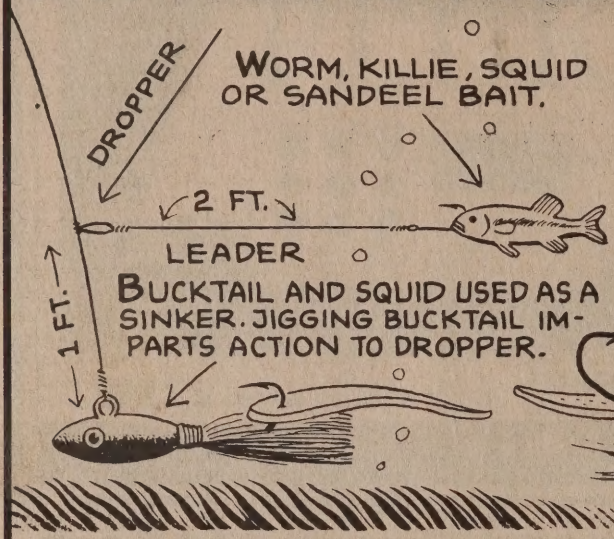
FISHERMAN TIPS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

BUCKTAIL JIG AND DROPPER COMBO FOR FLUKE AND WEAKFISH.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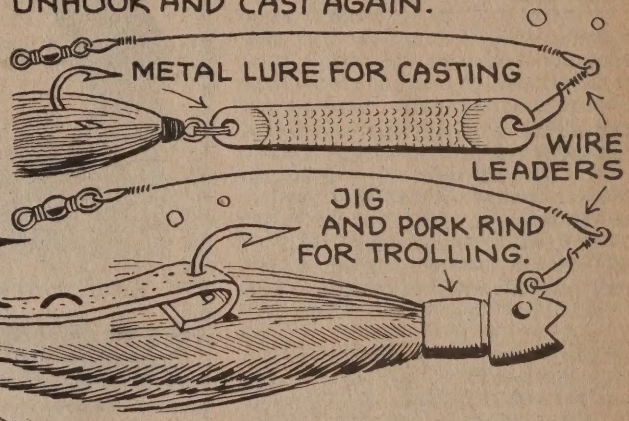

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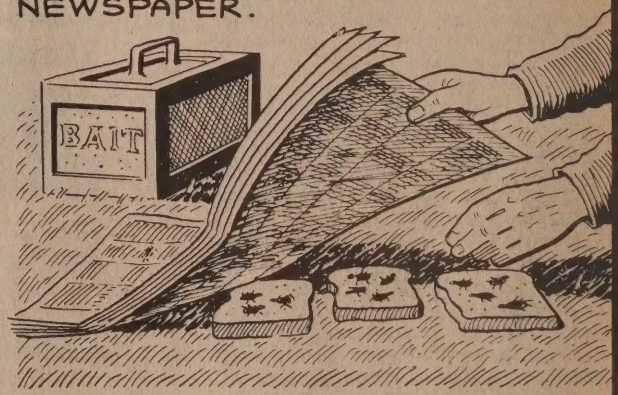

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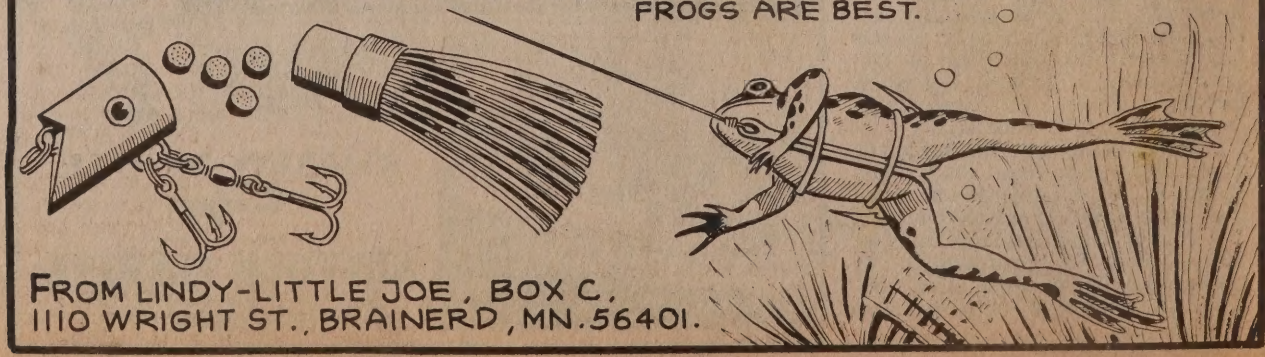

FROM LINDY-LITTLE JOE, BOX C, 1110 WRIGHT ST., BRAINERD, MN. 56401.

East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

East End has come alive with fish. Surprise news is that flounder catches at Montauk are the best of the season, in both size and quality. Fluke have increased, particularly in the Shinnecock Bay. Bluefish are a reliable catch. Stripers have been taken on daytime charter trips at Montauk. The first mako was landed and brought into Montauk. Bigeye and wahoo in the Canyon. Acres of bluefin tuna spotted at 37 fathoms out of Montauk.

MONTAUK

On the charterboat scene, the first mako of the season was caught aboard the **Pronto** captained by Mike Bentivegna, Jr., on Saturday. The fish, weighing in at 75 lbs. was handled by Steve Repka, cheered on by Harry Holmes and his son Ken. Captain mike fished the 40 fathom line where the water temperature was 58 degrees. Ten blue sharks were also fought, tagged and released. On Sunday with Jan Weinberg and his friends, a half dozen blue sharks were caught and released. Captain Mike reported all the blue sharks one could want, and very few bluefish.

Steve Repka, armed with the knowledge gleaned from his **Pronto** trip took his boat, Sea Rock, to the spot of the first mako capture, and boated on one of 139 lbs., lost another at the boat. It pays to have a good teacher!

With the **Bluefin IV** all spruced up, Capt. Michael Potts found 12 blue sharks approximately 23 miles from Montauk with the Jacobson group on Friday. Saturday's trip with the McCormics fished inshore near the lighthouse where 60 cocktail blues plus 6 striped bass were trolled. Five keeper bass included fish of 17, 19 and 21 lbs. On Sunday, the Knight group, who summer at Montauk, trolled 14 stripers, seven of them keepers to 12 lbs. About 3 dozen small bluefish were included in the catch. Captain Potts has great expectations for a great summer season, particularly since these bass were taken in the daytime.

Dave Asumaa and his party caught all the bluefish in the 8-12 lb. range they wanted at the beginning of the trip on the **Mary-A**, then opted to bottom fish at the Point near the radar tower where Capt. Jim Flowers reported a catch of 44 very good size, thick flounder with good action. On Sunday, fishing the 40 fathom line, Ed Cooper and his friends caught 8 blue sharks, top weight 205 lbs. Captain Flowers has only a few open dates for summer shark and tuna. Call him for dates.

Captain Chuck Mallinson fished locally for 50 bluefish and 50 flounder with Tony Ferry on the **Joy-Sea** during the week. On Thursday and Friday, Frank Bailey and his friends caught 50 bluefish, 120 nice flounder, a handful of cod, sea bass, blackfish and a lone blowfish. This should keep them in good fish dinners for awhile back home in Pennsylvania!

Captain Mallinson reported that a friend of his, Charlie, took an overnight trip to the Canyon on the "Bite the Dust" where a few bigeye tuna were boated along with a wahoo in 72 degree water.

Captain Jerry McGrath fished mackerel over the weekend on **Nostalgia II** with Dick Latinski and Peter Laz on one trip; Joe Melendez and Paul Cusker and 13 year old Kenny on another. Kenny proved himself a "natural" fishermand and quite an expert. Captain McGrath reported lots of flounder brought into **Gone Fishing Marina** over the weekend with very large fish caught at Turtle Cove, most flatties over two pounds.

Captain Bill Ricca fished Turtle Cove with Lenny and Jerry from Genovese Drug Stores and Gene Planish of West Nyack for flounder on Friday. A total of 123 flounder, filling six buckets were taken. Captain Ricca reported that the catch on the **Alyssa Ann** included numerous flounder over 3½ lbs., more than half the catch over 1½ lbs. in weight and double headers of 2½ lb. fish. The fish were located both at Turtle Cove and Shagwong. Eleven sea bass to 3½ lbs. rounded out the catch. Mackerel are still as thick as ever at Block Island.

Captain Joe McBride of the **My-Mate** reports plentiful blue shark south and southwest of Montauk Point. Good bottom fishing continues on the South Side. The Montauk Captains Association expressed thanks and congratulations for the organizers of the Blessing of the Fleet, held over the weekend, for a very good job. Everything went well, according to all the participants. Captain Joe suggests calling him to check on his few available dates in June.

Frank McGuire and friend with 30 big cod taken aboard the Montauk based charter boat, "Vivienne."

Edelman's Lou Rosado tried a shark trip on Friday on his boat, "Bullet," accompanied by Mike Albrondo of the charter boat, **Montauk**. Based on shark reports they first set up at the 30 fathom line, where 57 degree water temperature apparently held billions of bluefish and only one shark: a blue shark. After two hours, the "Bullet" sailed further to 59.9 degree water temp at 37 fathoms, the home of all the blue sharks anyone could want. Capt. Mike and Lou experimented with all kinds of tackle—mostly flounder and bluefish setups for a fun day. Returning to the spot the next day, Saturday, Lou was greeted with the unbelievable sight of acres of bluefin tuna, in the 2-300 lb. range, chasing bait. Although he tried every trick he could think of, none would take a hook!

Because of the outstanding flounder action arund the Point, the **Viking Starlite** is fishing for flatties on half day trips. Over the weekend fishing was excellent. Ten year old Mark Danza, the son of the noted actor Tony, copped the flounder pool.

Coxes Ledge cod remain excellent, while **Starship** offshore wreck trips are phenomenal. Latest trip included cod over 40 lbs. plus wolffish among the catch.

SOUTH FORK

Chris Salb at **Bayview Marine and Tackle** in Sag Harbor reports hot and cold porgy catching this past week. On one hand, Mr. Constantine and his friend bagged 100 porgies at Cedar Point in a two hour feeing frenzy, while others at different times found only a handful of scup. The porgies were taking clam and worm bait. Bluefish mixed with weakfish were attracted to red and white tubes trolled on wire at Mashomack Point. During this transitory period, a mixed bag can be had in the bay. Blackfish are still around as are small flounder. It should pay off to try fluking in earnest this weekend. Stop into look at the Father's Day special at the shop: 10 percent off the entire supply of rods.

Captain Artie Lach found good porgy fishing on the **Wilhelric** on Saturday, with average catches of 25/man of fish in the medium size range. Capt. Lach feels that the slow start of the porgy run can be attributed to the huge offshore catches made by sophisticated draggers working the wintering grounds of the porgies on the West side of the Hudson Canyon. He has heard of as much as 30,000 pounds of scup taken on one set, with many small fish shoveled

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dead into the sea. Apparently, although N.Y. State Conservation laws limit porgies to 7 inches or more to be offered to sale, other states do not.

As predicted, night Wilhelric bluefish/weakfish trips have had increased catches with the waning moon. On Thursday's trip with members of the Southampton PBA, 25 weakfish to 7 lbs. along with 150 bluefish were caught. On Friday, approximately 15 weaks, half of them over 10 lbs. were caught, along with the ever present bluefish. A reminder: there are only a few tickets remaining for the special Horton's Point Fluke trip scheduled for Father's Day—June 16th. Reservations are a must!

Thom Speckenbach saw a good sea bass catch which was made on the offshore wreck Panther over the weekend and brought into **Speck's Bait and Tackle.** Over 100 sea bass to 2¼ lbs. with some ling and porgies were caught on a private boat. While action at Gardiner's Island is between seasons, anglers are picking away at fluke, blackfish and flounder. Bluefish can be reached casting in the channels at Cold Spring Pond and National in the Peconics. Although the weather kept many anglers home, one regular at the Shinnecock jetties, continues to get his share of medium blackfish, using worms as bait.

Ron Woodward located three blue sharks on a weekend shark trip on the "Gos-Hawk," berthed at **Sherry and Joe Corr's Best Boatworks.** All were released after tagging. Dennis Stork and his friend Walter fluked near the inlet early last week for 34 keepers, all nice size.

Jenny, speaking for the open boat **Jenny Rose** called to say that fluke fishing has improved everyday with 70 percent keepers. On Thursday, 10 fares caught 60 fluke, while on Friday the proportion remained the same: 30 fluke for 5 fares. Saturday produced a real mixed bag on offshore wrecks.

Bruce Lance, Don Goodman and Bob DeRisi loaded up with flatties during a mid-May trip out of L&M Marine in East Moriches. The three friends fished near buoy 45 and used worms and mussel and clam chum.

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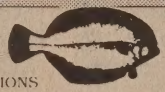
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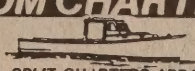
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Larry Mangarillo had a very busy weekend at **Corr's Mariners Cove** in Hampton Bays, despite fog. Most skiffs stayed within view of the gas dock because of the fog and returned with average catches of 20 to 35 keepers per boat, most fish around 2 lbs. in weight. Larry has heard of porgies and weakfish in the Peconics. Lots of blues remain steady both at the Ponquot Bridge and on both sides of the inlet.

Flounder finally have made a strong showing in the Shinnecock Bay—two months late according to Mickey at **Altenkirch & Son** in Hampton Bays. Best action is at the Basket and at Buoy 17, with incoming tide best. Lots of cocktail blues are running through the canal, best caught when the locks are open. They must be thick, since Mickey caught 2 himself before going to work. Use small tins such as Hopkins or light jigs, no more than 1 oz. When the canal locks are closed, fish for fluke, flounder and blowfish. Blowfish have apparently made a comeback in the canal after missing several years. Best rig is a tandem bottom rig, such as for porgies or flounder. Blowfish will take any kind of bait. Squid, worms, clam, even fiddler crabs.

Offshore, the "Sandra Jean" captained by Chuck Watson, "almost" came home with a mako. Unfortunately, the fish, estimated at 150 lbs., was lost at boatside.

A large fluke, 13 lbs. 4 oz., was caught at Horton's Point on Sunday, weighed at **Altenkirch and Son** for a possible men's world record on 16 lb. test line by Billy Velys, a member of **Warren's Tackle Shop** fishing team. A review of IGFA updates issued every two months showed it lacked a few ounces to break the existing record announced in December. We'll be seeing Bill at Horton's or Gardiner's, or Montauk fluking for the rest of the summer.

South Shore REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

Saturday's rain and Sunday's overcast, and in some cases fog dampened the weekend fishing picture for many south shore anglers. Many more however took the weather in stride and enjoyed fine bluefishing offshore of both inlets. Several mako sharks were landed in addition to numerous blue sharks and the first pair of yellowfin tuna were returned from the Canyon thru Fire Island Inlet on Sunday. Flounder are still present in both bays and continue to dominate the picture in Moriches. Due to poor water conditions in Great South Bay, the best fluking has been concentrated at the mouth of the inlet and just outside the inlet for most of this past week.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Capt. Harry Dawkins of the **Moriches** based charter and open boat **Frances Ann** reported that a half day charter on Wednesday for Tom Burker and friends resulted in 80 choppers taken while jigging and trolling. Harry reported fish in the 4-5 pound class at the Head Buoy and larger fish in the 10-12 pound range 4-5 miles south of the Buoy. On Saturday he opted for the Patchogue Grounds where 150 blues from 7 to 14 pounds were jigged on Ava 27's for Bruce Clayton and friends. He spent Sunday fluking in the vicinity of the Head Buoy and saw 8 anglers take a total of 50-55 keepers including a doormat of 9 pounds.

From **Silly Lily Fishing Station** in **East Moriches** Gary Grunseich reported much improved fluke fishing this week with most boats finishing with 15 keepers per. Three out of four of the fish are keepers with the best scores being made on spearing and squid or sandeel and squid combos from the Elbow to Buoy 41. On Friday, Charlie and Ann Kukenis had 15 keepers to 2½ pounds. Still plenty of flounder being taken in the deep water channel between buoys 33 and 39.

Larry Dalliare of **L & M Marine Fishing Station** in **East Moriches** looked over the season's best fluke catch to date on Sunday. John Nepson and Tom Lacarrubba returned to the station with 47 keepers taken while drifting between buoys 42 and 43. Still plenty of flounder in the bay with most anglers still concentrating their efforts on the winter flatties. The

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area opposite the Coast Guard Station continue to produce good flattie action. In Saturday's rain, Fred Holt returned from buoy 27 with a 2.9 pound flounder.

Capt. Ron Schleuter of the **Moriches** based **Alma Fleet** reported steady flounder action from the end of the week thru the weekend. He will continue to concentrate on flounder over the next two weeks or so before making the switch to fluke. Some of the flatties being taken are impressive sizes. Eli Spector had a 2.9 pounder on Thursday. On Saturday, Eric Bruno topped off a 25 fish catch with a 2.4 pounder and in Sunday's fog Don Greenfield took a 2¾ pound pool winning flattie.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Still some pretty good crab reports coming in from local docks according to Paul Graniello of **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue**. Also, the first showing of small bay weaks took place off of Sayville this week. Flounder still a good bet in Moriches with flatties still being taken in the Sore Thumb area of Fire Island Inlet. Best fluking in the area has been at the mouth of the Inlet as well as in the 30-40 foot depths just outside Fire Island Inlet.

Dave Canale of **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale** put a 12.4 pound weak on the scale for Stan Calise of Bay Shore. Stan took the tiderunner on a squid strip near the old Lighthouse. Several customers reported good fluking at the mouth of the Inlet and just outside. Blues were in the inlet for much of the week although the weekend proved erratic. The best bluefish action was found from the Bell Buoy on out with larger fish the rule the further offshore one traveled. Two boatmen reported taking weaks up to 5 pounds in the East Bay south of Browns River in Sayville. One used jellyworms while the other used squid strips on a small single hook diamond jig to take several fish. Reports of some decent sharking on Sunday with several makos and quite a few blue sharks taken by boatmen making the trek offshore.

From **Peppy's Tackle Shop** in **East Islip**, Irene Cioffi reported that her husband Peppy had Greg Owen worked 60' depths south of the pound nets on Sunday with Ava 17's and green and red tubes. The pair put away 75 blues in the 3-6 pound range. Irene called the current fluke picture fair with the best reports coming from the inlet. She reminded that the shop fluke contest is now underway with a custom rod being offered for the angler taking the largest fluke weighed at the shop. You must pre-register in order to be eligible.

Speaking from **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in **Bay Shore** Carl Miller reported a catch of 19 keeper fluke for the Bay Shore Tuna Club Boat Sea

Runner on Sunday. Fishing near the mouth of the inlet with sandeel and squid combos the crew returned another 15 fish. Carl knew that there were lots of blues on the West Bar of the Inlet Sunday morning. The fish which ranged from 3-5 pounds were being taken on jigs and tins. Still a good population of blackfish on the Kismet Reef. One customer stopped to show 7 tautogs to 6 pounds taken during a brief stint in Saturday's rain. Another customer stopped to show a catch of 8 sea bass from 1½ to 2 pounds taken on squid strips near Buoy 4, West Channel. Carl knew of at least one mako taken over the weekend although he had no specifics and added that Mike Donovan reported a catch of 5 blue sharks taken in 185' of water on Sunday.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the **Captree** open boat **Captree Queen II** spoke of an improved fluke picture though he was quick to add that the best of the action in recent days was confined to the mouth of the inlet and 30-40 feet of water just outside the inlet. Some fish were taken inside between the inlet and the bridge. Best action has been on the flood and the first of the Ebb with more shorts found on the inside and bigger fish making up the catches outside the inlet. Weaks and bluefish have provided erratic action on the special evening trips. Some nights see 50-100 blues taken while other nights see only 2-10 fish come over the rail. Gordon said that he will continue with the evening bay trips for another week or two before making a commitment to his night bluefish runs.

Aboard the **Capt. Scotty 3**, again the best fluking is being found at the mouth of the inlet or just outside. Fishing back in the bay was tough this week. Evening bluefishing runs hot and cold and weakfishing has been a very slow pick at best.

From behind the counter at **Captree Bait and Tackle**, Noel Kappauf reported some nice flounder coming from the Robert Moses Pier. Even better is the flounder action being found at the Jones Beach Piers. Also a few fluke coming from the docks as well. Carlos Shigueta took a 3¼ pound fluke from the Fisherman's Wharf on Sunday. On Saturday, Danny Pascivita took a 7 pound blackfish from the shore opposite Robert Moses Parking Field 2.

The season's first pair of yellowfin tuna were checked in to **Augie's Bait and Tackle** in **Babylon** on Sunday. The two fish were taken at the Canyon aboard Al Kaich's 'Hunky'. At least 3 makos were reported by Babylon Tuna Club boats. The Cannon Ball, Shotgun and Happy Hooker all clicked with makos. Details were lacking on the first two fish but the fish taken aboard the Happy Hooker tipped the scales at 216 pounds. Capt. Ed Torkilson of the **Tork I** was joined by Bruce Morabito and Vinnie DiMartino on Sunday. The trio ran to 170' of water and caught and released a pair of blue sharks estimated at over 200 pounds. Fluke are at the mouth of the inlet and just outside while flounder continue to be taken at the Oak Beach Pocket. Blackfish are still on the Kismet Reef and lots of blues including many in the 6-8 pound class were jigged from 50' of water on out.

Capt. Ralph Green of the open boat **Miss Babylon** reported a catch of 7 keepers to 3 pounds for Bill Salvia on Tuesday. On Thursday, the best day of the week, 7-8 keepers per man was the rule with one trio accounting for 30 of the summer flatties. The weekend saw some decent action south of the Bell Buoy on sandeels and spearing. Incoming water has been the key to the best fluke action. Evening bluefishing was slow on both Friday and Saturday nights with just a few fish including a 10 pounder taken.

A 371 pound thresher shark was weighed at Frank and Dick's Bait Dock on Saturday. The big shark grabbed a mackerel and squid combo being fished over the Virginia Wreck from the private boat "Black's Magic". Andrea Black captained the family boat while husband Barry crewed and Billy Williams handled the rod.

From **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**, Mike Andreani reported a 4 pound fluke for 6 year old Nick Lubrano on Sunday. There was some good fluking in the East-West Channel opposite Copiague and Lindenhurst with many of the fish falling into the keeper category. An occasional big weak still

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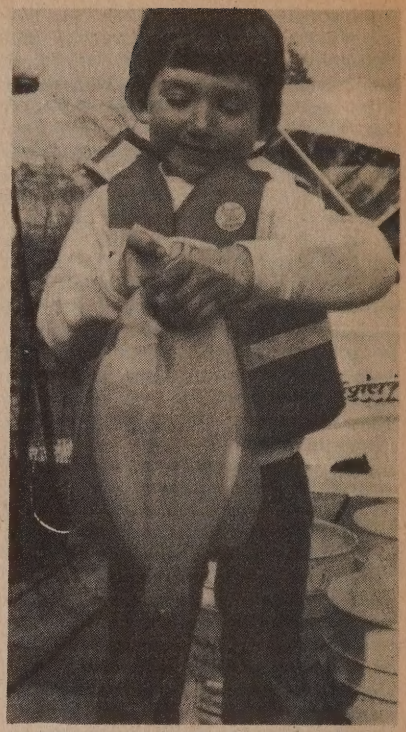

Young Jess Tuck won this spring's Oakdale Sportsman's Club Founder Derby with this hefty flattie. Photo courtesy of J&R Sport Center in Oakdale.

coming from West Channel and the old Lighthouse and 2-4 pound blues on and off at the inlet for jiggers and trollers. Plenty of bigger blues offshore for trollers, jiggers and chummers. On Saturday, Tom Boniberger dropped an estimated 200 pound mako while drifting over the Virginia. He lost his prize shark when the leader parted at the swivel. Some good crabbing going on at the Lindenhurst Town Dock.

Over at **Z Crab Bait and Tackle**, in **Copiague** Ralph Angelillo finally managed to break away from his chores at the shop and sample some of the local action. Fishing the first of the Ebb at the inlet on Thursday, Ralph put away 3 weaks to 7 pounds and 53 blues averaging 3 pounds. Both the blues and weaks were taken on Hopkins. Ken Smelcer chose Thursday to work the Amity Cut for fluke. He put away 21 keepers to 3½ pounds and added 18 big blue claw crabs to his catch as well. The crabs were taken in traps. On Sunday, Al Speehr used red jellyworms to take weaks of 7 and 10 pounds at the inlet near the Sore Thumb. Steve Sisson was also intent on weaks near the Sore Thumb when a 34 pound striper gobbled his jellyworm. Billy Biscardi continued to work over the Rota Wreck blackfish population on Saturday. He took 60 tautog up to 6 pounds. Also on Saturday, Capt. Fred Laier of the **Captree** charter boat **Eagle** reported taking a blue shark and a brown shark south of F.I. Inlet.

According to Bob Vitale of **Bob's**

Bait and Tackle in **Amity Harbor**, Tom Alverano Sr. used a killie/squid combo to take a 5.2 pound blackfish at the inlet on Sunday. Tom Claude of Amity Harbor ran to 165' of water where he found a 400 pound thresher and told of dropping a mako. Blues are solid in 60-80' of water with 2 schools of fish making up the bulk of the action. Fish in the 3-5 pound range and another body of 8-10 pound fish seemed to be settled into the area. Fluke fishing in the bay slowed due to dirty water conditions but there was some very good action this week just outside the mouth of the Inlet. Blue claw crabs are being taken from local docks.

Speaking from **Edelman's** in **Farmingdale**, Frank Pristera reported the first blue shark of the season for Surfside III Tuan Club. Frank Sterlacci found a 165 pound blue SE of the Inlet in 180' of water. On Saturday, Frank weighed a 12 pound blue for 12 year old Paul Ferrara. It was taken just outside F.I. Inlet. Charlie Depaulo had 40 blues at the inlet aboard his Marine Mate one day this past week. Blues up to 10 pounds are being taken at the NA Buoy. Best bet for fluke this week was at the mouth of the inlet or just outside in 30-40' of water.

West End REPORT

with Stu Miller

The area has been armpit deep in bluefish this week with fish all the way up to 15 lbs. . This is extremely early for this heavy and steady a concentration of blues. However, there seems to be no sign of any let up. The fluking has continued to be very strong most days with some more midgets this week than last week. Good floundering still available in the deeper holes, particularly around the main bridges crossing Sloop. A few scattered weakfish reports on sand worms and the shark reports are starting to drift in.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

Out of Massapequa Capt. Ed Zack of the charter boat Sun Ray had a 155 lb. mako. On the rod was Ed Bedron, fishing with Joe Doyle and Ted Zack. Hook up was made in 160 feet of water SE of the HA with a water temp of 59 degrees.

From **Pop's Fishing Station** in Seaford John tells of continued good fluking with a downturn on the weekend due to rain, wind and boat traffic. Flounder have been best at the second Wantagh up to the Jones Beach piers and Zachs Bay. On Saturday Harry Erickson and friend accounted for 18 fluke up to 18 inches taken on the east side of the 3rd Wantagh from buoy 11 to 4 Corners on killie-squid combos. Sand porgies are starting.

We hear from Mike at **Causeway Bait and Tackle in** Wantagh that fluke were the best bet on the weekend on a flood tide with spearing. Best areas were 2nd Wantagh, 4 Corners, state channel east of Zachs Bay, Rowboat Alley, Broad Creek and Jones Inlet at the east bar. Forty to 70 percent of the fish have been keepers going up to 3½ lbs. Flounder continue good, 15 to 40 per boat using worms and heavy chumming. The main bridges and the state channel have been yielding fish to 2¼ lbs. Blues in the bay have been fair, while 4 to 10 lbers. have been taken in the Ocean. Nighttime the blues are gobbling up cut bunker. A lot of short bass on plugs, sand worms and small cut bunker, from the jetties and beaches. There have been larger bass in the back to 25 lbs. on bunker and fish on bellies, mainly shorts at the 2nd Wantagh. Blues 3 to 8 lbs. from 40 ft. of water at Jones west to Debs on outgoing on umbrellas for trollers. Jack Szabo of Hicksville on Monday morning weighed in a 43¼ lb. striper which he took on a Hopkins at West End II.

Over in Merrick Gary at **Garon's Tackle** knew of bluefish 3 to 15 lbs. all over the place, excellent fluking in Reynolds Channel on AM tides this past week on sand eels and spearing.

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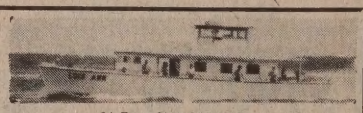

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Very good flounder off the CG station and at the 3rd Meadowbrook and Wantagh bridges on worms and clam and also a couple of weakfish taken in Jones Inlet in the evening on whole sand worms.

Moving over to Freeport, Capt. Mike of the charter boat **Apus III** told of the super bluefishing now which he has never seen so early and so good, just out of Jones. Also plenty of bigger blues offshore said Mike who had a blue shark this week in 150 feet of water. Some makos and threshers were taken by various other boats he said in 170 feet of water.

Ronnie at **Hudson Point Fishing Station** called the fluking excellent in Long Creek, Reynolds and Sloop Channels and the east and west bars of Jones Inlet and the back bays. Flounder remain very good in Swift Creek, at the Big M, Wantagh bridge and the deeper holes in Sloop Channel. Lots of bluefish all over the place and also a lot of blue shark from 100 feet on out. Around the 130 to 140 foot mark threshers and makos have been taken and the wrecks are producing very good sea bass. Ashley Fulton nailed a 4 lb. 8 oz. fluke, Ashley being a member of Atlantis Anglers. Don't forget the June 22nd Hudson Anglers Shark Tournament being held out of Hudson Point Fishing Station. There's still time to enter.

Captain Dan of the charter boat **Nan-Sea** fished South Nassau Construction Company Saturday loading up with 73 blues from 8 to 13 lbs. in 70 feet of water south of Jones. Sunday's trip for Carmine Shard of Inwood bagged 43 blues, 7 to 14 lbs. on light tackle. Dan said all the boat's reels were spooled with Sigma line.

The **Starstream** as of Thursday begins its day and night bluefishing program and with blues in the area solid the trips should be dynamite.

We hear the JR from **Sea Isle Sports** finally rang the bell with 8 yellowfin tuna taken at the west wall of the canyon on plastic. Fish went 25 to 40 lbs. aboard the boat Deeper, owned and skippered by Bill Rauft of Dytek. At the tower on the way out the boat passed a load of shark stirring up the water.

From the open boat **Raider** we learned that Saturday's open boat trip working Jones aNd Reynolds had fluke 2 to 2½ lbs. on a flooding tide. All customers caught in the high teens. On Sunday a charter for 14th Street Square Club had a high hook of 27 keeper fluke with the pool taken by Emma Demmerle with a 6 lber. off Riis Park. The fluke were suckers for killies, squid, sand eels and spearing.

Aboard the charter boat **Corsair** there was ocean fluking done Saturday and Sunday west of Jones which was anywhere from great to excellent on fish to 3 lbs. Lots of throwbacks and sea bass were mixed in. Saturday's trip was for South Side Rod and Gun Club and high hook was Doug Rhodes of Kingston, NY. Sunday's trip was for Bell Brothers Appliances of Corona. The pool fish went 3 lbs. and there were a lot of keeper fluke and some good sized sea bass with everything caught on sand eels and squid.

We hear from the **Miss Freeport II** of excellent night bluefishing with 6 to 12 lbers. being caught Friday and Saturday nights just one hour from the dock. Catches were up to 40 a man on bait and chum. The day fluke trips have been fair. Friday's high hook was 15 keepers. Saturday was decent and Friday fair again with fluke to 3½ lbs. Ninety percent have been keepers said the skipper on sand eels and spearing.

It was a great weekend reported Capt. Sy Carlin of the **Blue Fin Fleet.** Fluking was excellent along the beach to the west, fish to 4 lbs. all on spearing, sand eels and strips. Four pound pool fish were caught by Akiao Miyamoto and Yvonne Chang. High hook of the week was Julio Clemente, 26 keeper fluke. The wrecks are producing large sea bass to 4 lbs. Dan Brady was high hook on sea bass and Roy Nance had the pool. Harry Bricciò

swung over a 3½ lb. fluke and Dave Silva had 15 keeper fluke.

We hear from the charter boat **Lady J III** that in the rain on Tuesday the Albert Ashford Resident Managers Club had good fluking locally in the AM. Thursday's trip for a Merrick group led by Joel Hanan had decent fluking while on Friday action tapered off a bit for the 41st Precinct Bronx with a lot of blues biting off rigs intended for fluke. Saturday's trip for Steve Mondello saw good Riis Park fluking and on Sunday Forest Valley Tavern of Locust Valley picked away at the fluke off Riis taking lots of keepers and lots of midgets which have been feasting on sand eels. Spearing and sand eels have been the preferred bait, pools running 3½ to 4 lbs. everyday.

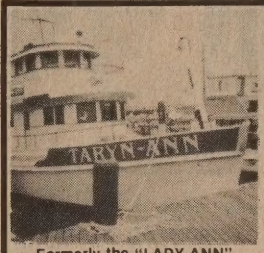
Aboard the charter boat **Capt. Gary**, Wednesday's trip for St. Mary's Boys Home saw decent fluking with Walt high hook with 5 fluke and Pete taking the pool with a 3 lber. On Saturday, the Gary Warren group had good fluke off Riis. Gary was high hook with 14 keepers and Steve Grant took the pool with a 3½ lber. Sunday's trip Mr. Messey and pals had good fluke off Riis. Marie and Bob Goughterhad 16 fluke between them while the pool went to Bob Jackson with a 3 lb. 8 oz. fluke. Ten year old Chris Messey bagged a 4 lber.

Bob at the **Freeport Boatmens Association** advised that the **Super Spray II** has been having very good fluking right through Sunday on its 2 trip a day schedule. Also, the Association's charter boats have been socking it to the fluke inside at the inlet, and off the Rockaways and Riis with a 50 percent keeper ratio. A 239 lb. mako shark was brought back on the Christy Lee which also had several blue shark which were tagged and released. Bluefish have been wall to wall wiht 3 to 5 lbers. in close and 10 to 15 lbers. further off the beach.

Over at Pt. Lookout we hear from **Scotty's Fishing Station** that aboard the Horizon Sun Jim and Sal Cataldo and Lou Mele of Mineola had 140 blues 3 to 6 lbs. on jigs fishing west of the Lido Hotel in 40 feet of water. Doc Lois, Celia and Betty managed 15 keeper fluke in front of the station. Mrs. Carey fishing aboard the Betty Ann had 39 blues in the 15 lb. class taken in 4 hours on umbrellas, 9 miles south of Jones Inlet Saturday. The station's first mako was weighed in, a 155 lber. taken 9 miles east of the HA aboard the charter boat **Sun Ray**. Jay Demarco bagged a 2¼ lb. flounder. The rental skiffs continue to take fluke at the inlet right through Sunday on sand eels and squid while the flounder activity continues on worm and clam.

Aboard the **Miss Point Lookout** Eileen Fusco bagged a 3 lb. pool winner as did Bob Zupka who also had a 3¾ lb. pool winner on another trip. Six fluke this week were in the 4 lb. range said Ron. John Ryan of Fresh Meadows on Thursday had 7

CAPTREE



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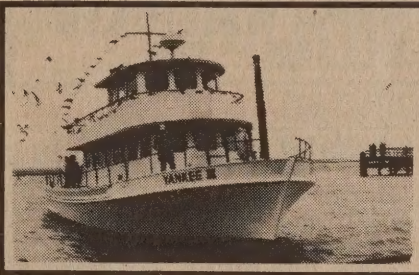

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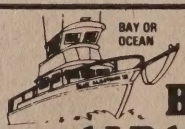

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keepers plus a 4½ lber. Saturday saw Terry Kramer with 16 keepers taken at Jones Inlet. Friday's high hook was 12 good fluke.

This week on the charter boat **Marie III** Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday fares had very good fluking off Riis, Playland and Breezy Point to the tune of 300/500 fluke a day with a 40 to 60 percent keeper ratio all on belly, spearing and sand eels. Skilled anglers had 15 to 25 keepers while average catches were 8 to 15 a man. Wednesday and Thursday saw bay fluking decent with catches of 100 to 200 a day with a 60 percent keeper ratio. Sunday's high hook and pool winner was Mary Murray, a first timer with 18 keeper fluke. Ron said he will continue to fish Riis when conditions are right.

Word from the **capt. Al** is of super bluefishing Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, catches from 250 to 300 blues per trip. High hooks ran from 23 to 26 fish per trip and fish ran 6 to 14 lbs., mostly gaffers. The skipper expects this to be a great bluefish season as it has started very early and is strong and consistent. There are porgies on the wrecks and the water is warm, which of course is why the blues are here. He's had some super bottom fishing this week but it looks like day and night blues from here on in. A call to the captain first is suggested.

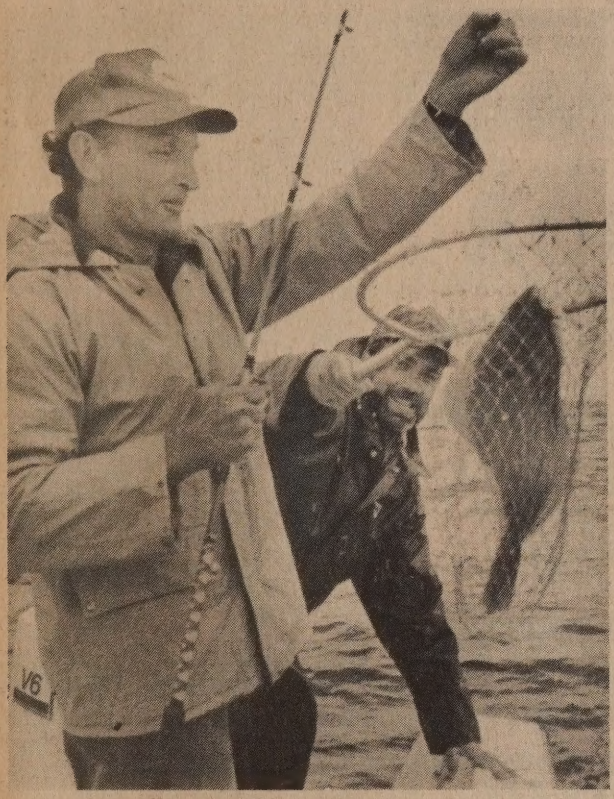
Over at **Ed's Fishing Station** Eileen tells of lots of bay blues at the inlet. Eleven year old Cam Borruso of Franklin Square hooked and landed an 18 lb. blue on a drifted bunker chunk. Lots of fluke and flounder activity on the weekend.Karl Frey of NYC managed 16 keeper fluke fishing the Fundy flats. Forty flounder was the reward for Richie Ricizka and Bo Pukisz of Astoria. These fish were up to 2 lbs. taken at the Loop bridge on the ebb. They used worms and heavy chumming and managed a few fluke and blackfish.

The **Commordore** out of Island ark had very good fluke off Riis Park Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Saturday saw John Glaser and Don Thompson with 25 keeper fluke each. On Sunday Marie Rodice took a 5½ lb. pool winner plus 14 other keeper fluke. Nearly 400 keepers were taken that day fishin Riis and the Tin Can Grounds. One customer kept everyone fed on boiled calico crabs which were fresh caught and delicious.

Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook tells of Tom Macnicholas of RVC with his 6 lb. 14 oz. fluke Saturday PM under the Marine Parkway bridge in Jamaica Bay on a spearing squid combo. Great fluking at the Tin Can and the south end of Ambrose chanel, fish mostly keepers. Lots of nice size flounder at the Big M on worms and chum.

Over at **Long Beach Sports Marina** blues and fluke were the number one feature for the week in the Reynolds channel area. Cocktails were in the bay hitting fluke bait during the week while alligator blues rained havoc on

1985 CAPTREE/JONES BEACH
FLUKE DERBY



SATURDAY & SUNDAY
JUNE 29 & 30
SATURDAY 6 A.M. - 7P.M.
SUNDAY 6 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

REGISTRATION LOCATIONS:

In Person: Captree Bait & Tackle Shop
Jones Beach Bait & Tackle Shop

Deadline: Thursday, June 27

By mail: write for an application:
FLUKE DERBY
P.O. Box 247,
Babylon, New York 11702

Deadline: Friday, June 21

Tournament Entry Fee: $5.00

CASH PRIZES:
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2nd PLACE - $250.
3rd PLACE - $100.
4th- 10th Place - Equipment Prizes
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Entry Form: 1985 FLUKE DERBY

I agree to abide by the tournament rules and regulations. The fish I enter will have been weighed in accordance with these rules and I swear it represents an honest weight.

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Address _____

Signature _____

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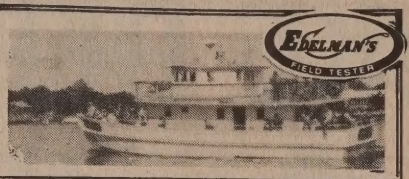

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the bunker schools in Reynolds. Good bluefishing was had off the piers in the evenings with blues to 15 lbs. Blue are also being trolled on umbrellas in 30 feet of water. Fluke all over the place, very good off Riis, Debs and buoys 7 and 9 in Reynolds. Sharpies are doing some nice flounder-ing off the Cedarhurst Yacht club on mussels. some cow bass and big blues being livelined at the ABB. Blacks slow at the ABB and fair at the offshore wrecks on green crabs.

From Atlantic Beach we hear from Capt. Ronnie Lepper of the charter boat **Kim** has been getting some 25 to 35 lb. striped bass on white Danny plugs and has also been trolling smaller bass to 18 lbs. on umbrellas daytime. Ron is now fishing for, catch and booking bass, blues and weaks.

Al at **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** advises the fluke are west of the ABB all the way through Debs and in 30 feet of water off Riis, from 87th St. to Playland and on the red side of Am-brose Channel. Deep jigging is producing blues at buoy 4 and off Playland. A few blackfish at the ABB. Winners of the Atlantic Beach Rod and Gun Club fluke tournament are: Marty Peyser, 3.4½; John Koehler, 3 lbs. 3 oz; Jay York, 2 lbs. 12 oz.

George from **Oceanside Bay Marina** called to report a 6¾ lb. fluke weighed in by Bob Mann taken last Saturday off Long Beach in front of the high school on outgoing and on live killies.

NEW YORK BIGHT

Skippy's Bait and Tackle in Rocka-way says the best fluking this week at the Warrior buoy and some in Debs and the broad channel area on sand eels, squid and strip baits. Lots of

Steve McMahon, Steve Locassio and Ralph Whilborg with a good catch of flatties made near the Loop Parkway Bridge on sand worms and mussels. The trio fished out of Ed's Fishing Station in Point Lookout.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . −0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." −0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	4:50	5:25	5:45	6:15	5:35	6:05	6:50	7:10	9:20	9:35	8:30	8:50	4:50	5:15	6/13
FRI.	5:40	6:10	6:35	7:00	6:25	6:50	7:35	7:50	10:05	10:15	9:20	9:35	5:35	6:00	6/14
SAT.	6:30	6:50	7:20	7:40	7:15	7:30	8:15	8:25	10:50	10:50	10:05	10:15	6:20	6:45	6/15
SUN.	7:15	7:30	8:00	8:20	7:55	8:10	8:55	9:00	11:25	11:15	10:45	10:55	7:05	7:25	6/16
MON.	8:00	8:05	8:45	9:00	8:35	8:45	9:30	9:35	11:55	11:30	11:25	11:35	7:50	8:05	6/17
TUES.	8:40	8:45	9:25	9:40	9:20	9:20	10:10	10:10	—	12:20	—	12:10	8:30	8:50	6/18
WED.	9:15	9:25	10:05	10:20	10:00	11:00	10:55	10:55	12:00	12:45	12:15	12:45	9:15	9:30	6/19
THURS.	10:00	10:05	10:45	11:05	10:45	10:40	11:35	11:35	12:35	1:20	12:55	1:30	10:00	10:15	6/20

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	−0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	−0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	−0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	−0 12
Seaside Park	−0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	−0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	−0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	−0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	−0 02
Rehobeth Beach	−0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Democrat Point	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42
Falkner Island	−0 13
Sachem Head	−0 10
Branford Harbor	−0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	−0 08
Milford Harbor	−0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	−0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	−0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	−0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	−0 14
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point, north side	−1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	−0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	−0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	−0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28
Port Chester	−0 09
Mamaroneck	−0 08
New Rochelle	−0 24
Davids Island	−0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	−0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	−0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	−1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	−0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	−0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	−0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	−0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 6/13	5:24	8:36
FRI. 6/14	5:24	8:36
SAT. 6/15	5:24	8:37
SUN. 6/16	5:24	8:37
MON. 6/17	5:24	8:38
TUE. 6/18	5:24	8:38
WED. 6/19	5:24	8:39

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 6/13	2:37AM	4:00PM
FRI. 6/14	2:59AM	5:01PM
SAT. 6/15	3:23AM	6:04PM
SUN. 6/16	3:52AM	7:07PM
MON. 6/17	4:25AM	8:10PM
TUE. 6/18	5:09AM	9:09PM
WED. 6/19	6:00AM	10:02PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
6/18	6/25	6/3	6/10

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	1:55	**8:00**	2:10	**8:20**
Fri.	2:35	**8:35**	2:45	**8:55**
Sat.	3:10	**9:15**	3:25	**9:35**
Sun.	3:50	**9:55**	4:05	**10:20**
Mon.	4:35	**10:40**	4:50	**11:10**
Tues.	5:25	**11:30**	5:40	**11:55**
Wed.	6:15	—	6:40	**12:30**
Thurs.	7:10	**12:55**	7:45	**1:30**

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From **Bay Head Marina Boat Rentals** comes word of Sal Miranda, and Ismael Badillo with their 10 5 lb. class blues on Nordic eels and several keeper fluke taken at the cut at the head of Jamaica Bay. Sunday saw Bob Staples of Jamaica with 22 keeper fluke at the Cross Bay bridge on squid.

Cross Bay Bait and Tackle on Jamaica Bay told of John Sanelli and his 17 lb. 1 oz. fluke caught Sunday off Breezy Point on squid-killie combos. Tom McNichols with his 6½ lbs. fluke at Marine Pkwy Bridge. Bill Becher and his 11½ lb. blue taken off the north channel bridge using a bunker chunk on the ebb along with 3 smaller blues Saturday. Blues excellent and small porgies starting. I was a 13 lb. Blue on an Ava 27 for Bob Barr of Chester NY. Some blackfish at both North and south channel bridges on fiddlers and greens.

To the west in Sheepshead Bay aboard the charter boat **Daybreaker** skipper Mike Blumm has been having super bluefishing at Ambrose Channel and the Tin Can. The two man charter on Saturday jigged over 100 blues and on Sunday in addition to a load of blues another group had a couple of 12 lb. strioped bass. Mike said fluking has been excellent also.

Neil at **Stella Maris Tackle** sums up the area's fishing saying there are tons of blues being jigged, trolled and baited and it's a leap job both in and offshore. Also super fluking on spearing, squid and sand eels fishing in the bay, at the round house off Rockaway and Riis Park and Steeplechase pier. Fish mostly keepers. Some porgies starting.

Aboard the charter boat **Thermocline**, Capt. John told of Saturday's trip for Ed Plesnitzer and pals fishing half day for fluke on the red side of Ambrose taking 30 keepers to 4 lbs. This was followed by a half day of blues working east of the can with blues so thick you could walk on them he said. However, the charter preferred to throw A27s at them and boated 160 to 4 lbs. Lots of blackfish on inshore wrecks said John who took a diving group out Sunday.

Fantastic bluefishing all week aboard the **Betty W. III** according to skipper Al Coley, fish to 15 lbs. It was jigging days and baiting at night and pretty much all the fish you wanted. Fish from the jetty to Debs Inlet has been solid with a few legal bass and some weaks mixed in.

A quick message left on our machine from the **Elsie K III** told of great fluking right through Sunday with everyone on board catching well.

We hear from Capt. Walt of the **Flamingo III** of the exceptionally good

Bluefishing that his fares have had though Sunday fish 3 to 15 lbs. with as many 15 lbers. as 3 lbers. The number of jumbo fish this time of the year is truly astounding and they're as thick as fleas from the jetty to Ambrose Tower, hungry and biting. Frank Zappalla had over 100. The fishing couldn't be better said Walt, customers are dragging bags off. A few odd weaks mixed in.

Captain Butch of the **Zephyr** has been concentrating on the Tin Can Grounds and the very good fluke action there with fares taking from a quarter to a full pail per man. Pools have been in the 5 lb. class and fishing has been consistently good all week.

We hear from skipper Joe Matteoli of the charter boat **Fishfinder** pass the news along that his charter Saturday and Sunday bagged up on 2 to 4 lbs. blues on A27s at Sandy Hook, Tin Can and Ambrose. The fish have been chasing and gorging on sand eels and false anchovies.

North Shore REPORT
with Marty Garrell

Bluefish in the Western Sound decided to eat over the weekend. Choppers from 2 to 15 lbs. concentrated from Northport and all points West. Blackfishing getting stronger every day, showing no signs of a let-up. Porgies are appearing in greater numbers. Slow tides over the weekend inhibited fluke catches, but fluke have been reported from City Island to Orient, some trophy size.

WESTERN SOUND

John, speaking for **Jack's Bait and Tackle** in **City Island** was estatic over the blackfish caught by anglers on his rental skiffs over the weekend. Most boats returned with 20 to 30 blackfish, most in the 2-5 lb. range, although there was a showing of fish to 8 lbs. Green crabs and fiddlers did the trick. A few porgies came in as well. Mount Vernon resident Roy Lattin drifted bunker chunks from his boat, appropriately named "Chopper Stopper" for a mess of bluefish, the largest 13 lbs. on Sunday fishing near Larchmont.

The open boats (**North Star** and **Klondike**) are still doing a number on blackfish, flounder, and a few porgies. The captain of the **Apache** reported super blackfishing this week with a brute of 12 lb. 12 oz. caught on Thursday, fishing in 8-10 feet of water. Most of the blacks however, range from 2-6 lbs., with high hook

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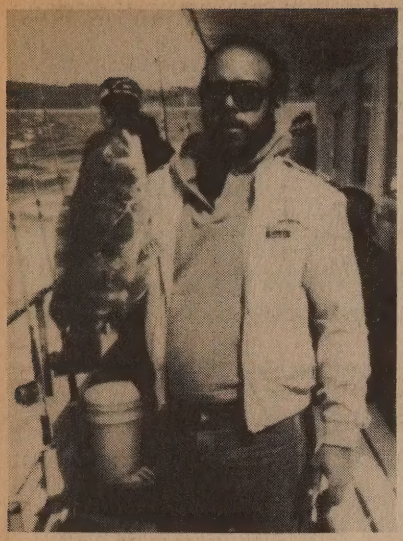
usually about 20 keepers on worms or fiddlers. An increasing number of fluke are taking baits meant for blackfish in the Lloyds Harbor and Huntington areas.

John, at **Glen Cove Sport Shop**, echoed the reports on blackfish, some pretty large, which can be found throughout the whole area, on all the rocky bottoms, mixed with decent flounder catches. John however, was very excited about the frenzied bluefish activity since Friday, with bluefish stacked up for boaters. Blues were taking umbrella rigs, tins, jigs, popping plugs, surface swimmers, you name it, they took it! Some hot spots included Execution Rock, City Island Reef. Fish ranged from 4-10 lbs. The action was described "as good as mid-August!" A few weakfish and small bass are around.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

A chat with Capt. Al of the **Ever Ready II** revealed that flounder and blackfishing are holding up well. A three hour fishing trip Sunday evening with boy scouts from the Flower Hill School in Huntington was an outstanding success. Thirtyseven youngsters were constantly into fish: fluke, porgy, blowfish, as side catches, flounder to two pounds and blackfish to 6 pounds providing constant action. Most kids averaged a dozen fish in the short trip. On Friday, with Capt. Bill Collins, anglers were diverted from bottom fishing by a passing school of blues, putting 8-10 blues per man into the boat in a short time. Although the **Ever-Ready II** is scheduling blackfish, flounder trips at the present time, Capt. Al will switch to blues when reports and catches are more consistant. Probably very soon.



Jose Rodriguez shows a 6 lb. blackfish taken on a recent trip aboard the City Island based open boat, "Apache."

Tom of **Northport**'s **Bowman's Sporting Goods** spoke about lots of blues in the 4-5 lb. range taking whiptail and silver lures at the hot water discharge at the Lilco plant in Northport, with choppers to 15 lbs. leaping on umbrella rigs trolled at the platform. Another school of blues was taking surface plugs east of the Nissaquogue River. Tom said that a lot of fluke have come into the area, with anglers who are fishing for them returning with 8-10 per trip, fish up to about 18 inches. Many anglers intent on blackfish have found fluke taking their worms at anchor. Blackfishing is described as incredible, with sandworms producing the best catches. A surprise catch of tommycod was made on Thursday, about 50 feet from the beach.

Mel Fleishman of **Greenlawn Sport Shop** reported a good to great blackfishing at Markamah Beach and off of the Eaton's Neck Coast Guard Station. Some bass activity in the area of the Nissequogue, while 5-8 lb. blues moved into the area over the weekend.

John Caraftis said that lots of fluke were caught before the weekend at White Beach and Flax Pond with catches to 20-30 fish per boat the average. Jim Fellen of Selden checked in with a 7¼ lb. fluke caught on squid-sandeel combo. Some bluefish were found at Buoy 11, by anglers who braved the fog on Sunday. Worms and Rebels are taking school bass along north shore beaches and in the Stony Brook area, however 99 percent are shorts. Blackfish are holding up well at Old Field Point, but have moved to deeper water, 40 feet. Best spot near the Gong Buoy, fishing slack tide, claims John at **Caraftis Fishing Station** in **Port Jefferson**. Porgy catches increased. One boat returned with 58. Best spots include near the beach at Miller Place and at Rocky Point near Old Sow Rock. Clams and worms are best.

Boats from **Ralph's Fishing Station** in **Mt. Sinai** are fishing either Old Field Point or Rocky Point for blackfish, with another hot spot straight out of the harbor near the striped entrance buoy. Although fluke slowed down over the weekend, Lou Magnan caught an eight pound doormat drifting under the Pink House. a marina based boat manned by Bill Economos and Peter Fousenaks fished at Miller Place beach late on Friday (to after dark) returning with a mess of porgies, the largest 3½ lbs. Eight fluke, top weight 5 lbs., were taken on the "Blue Baron" during a break in the fog Sunday afternoon.

Although Capt. Fred has been doing well on bottom fishing on the charter boat **Hawkeye**, he and his wife Barbara tried for blues for a short trip on Sunday, returning with about 30 blues, all cocktail size, jigged at Buoy 11.

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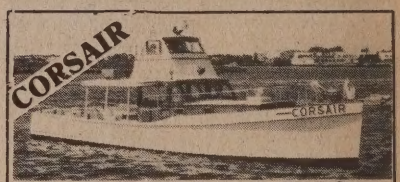

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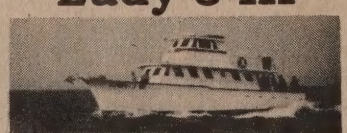

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FLOUNDER • FLUKE • BLACKFISH
BLUEFISH • CODFISH
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(516) 868-9073—AFTER 9 P.M.

Capt. Frank reported a slowdown in fluke action over the weekend, attributed to slow tides and light winds, however Joe Alece did manage a few fluke and blackfish on the **My Yacht II**. Capt. Fred has discovered a spot inside Mount Sinai Harbor where eels to about 4 feet in lenght can be caught in the daytime!

George Valentine at **Four Winds Bait and Tackle** in **Huntington Station** said there have been excellent catches of fluke in the area with an extraordinarily high keeper ratio. Fish are running upwards to 4 pounds. Mouth of Nissequogue River and just off the Eatons Neck Coast Guard Station are hot spots. Flounder and blackfish seemed to slow with the full moon but are picking up again. Try deep water. Reports of lots of large bass, some to 40 lbs., have come in since the full moon. Live lining bunker is working best. Bluefish are in solid from the loading platform eastwards to Cranes Neck, including Smithtown Bay, with wire line trolling producing all the fish you have the energy to catch, according to George.

Many captains, anglers, and tackle shop owners are talking about suspected illegal dragging activities (dragging at night without lights or in restricted areas) and also anglers keeping short bass or fluke. The DEC's Stony Brook Office will take complaints: call (516) 751-7900. The DEC's booklet "N.Y. State Fishing, Small Game, Hunting, Trapping Regulations Guide" which comes with each freshwater or small game licence also contains a list of home telephone numbers of all DEC law enforcement officers by district. This booklet can be picked up at the main office in Stony Brook, or requested by mail from: DEC, Bldg 40, SUNY, Stony Brook, N.Y. 11790. Tackle shops that sell fishing/hunting licences will also have this booklet.

NORTH FORK

Sal Loria at **Captain Marty's Fishing Station** spoke of some porgy action over the weekend, with a few fish pushing the three pound mark. Anglers who were generous with their chum were returning with as many as 100 fish per boat. Best areas for porgies are Middle Grounds between Buoys 18 and 22 in 25 feet of water, with the Buoy 28 and 30 areas producing well. Weakfish and blues are back at Jessups, and also at Buoys 28 and 30 with best results obtained by anchoring up and baiting the fish with squid strips or worms. Only a few fluke were seen this past weekend according to Sal, but a lot of blowfish came in, with a smattering of sea bass caught at Middle Grounds.

Ron Petersen said that your best bet is blackfish either on the Northville Pipeline or in front of the Beachcomber Motel. On Saturday, rental craft from the **Mattituck Inlet**

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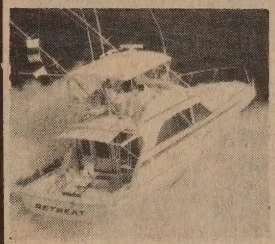
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75% More Fishing Time
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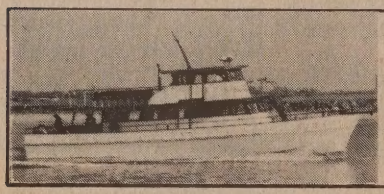

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FLUKE 7 A.M. DAILY

75' Steel Hull • Fish With Peace Of Mind

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Fishing Station caught large amounts of blacks to 7¼ lbs., while there were 9 lb. fish in Sunday's catch, with best bait still hermit crabs. Fluke were concentrated in 15-20 feet of water off the Firing range during the week, with some action at Hortons Point as well. On Sunday, John Catanzaro with Larry and Bob Marino fished the incomming tide in 18 foot depth at Hortons for 15 fluke. Fluke generally are keepers to about 4 lbs. Porgies moved in on Sunday, with some anglers returning with a bucket of scup to 2 lbs. in weight. Best spots are in front of the Motel, Goldsmiths Inlet, the Firing Range.

Bluefish of 2-3 lbs. were caught at Mattituck Inlet Wednesday night according to Ed from **Warren's Tackle Center** in **Aquebogue**. An occasional weakfish has been hooked at the Northville pipeline or while fishing for other species. Blues are also all over the Peconics with weakfish mixed in. Best results are trolled umbrella rigs. Best colors red, white, or natural tubes. A few porgies 1-1½ lbs. taking sandworms at Buoy 18, Middle Grounds.

Chris Cyprus, owner of **Warren's Tackle Center** tried Hortons Point for fluke on Saturday, returning with 6 decent size fish. On Sunday, Chris was accompanied by Billy Velys who was trying out his new custom **Warren's** rod, made with an ugly stick blank, spooled up with Ande 16 lb. tournament line on a Penn 930 reel. Seven keepers were put into the boat during the morning, most in the 3-4 lb. range. At noon, Bill's bait (squid-sandeel) was grabbed by a large fish which acted like a mini-halibut, not a dead weight as large fluke are reported to be. The fish ran, dived to the bottom several times, was seen twice at the surface before it was finessed into the net, expertly handled by Chris. The capture of a fish this size puts an end to a fishing trip. Charlie, at the **Mattituck Fishing Station**, recorded it at 13 lbs. 4 ozs. on his scale. It weighed the same at **Warren's**, which neccessitated a ride to **Altenkirch & Son** in **Hampton Bays** to check on its world record possibility. Alas, the new fluke record on 16 lb. tournament line was announced in December at 14 lbs., caught in New Jersey. While Bill's fish will go on a dinner plate this week, it's a sure bet that he and Chris Cyprus will be fluke regulars at Horton's Point looking for a 14 lb. 2 oz. fluke to break the record!

Mattituck's Capt. Bob Ceglowski reports good consistant fluke action on the **Capt. Bob**. On Tuesday's open boat trip, Walt Supper of Hicksville caught 6 fluke, top weight 7½ lbs., with others between 2 and 5 pounds. On Sunday's charter with a group of lady anglers, many fish in the 2-5 lb. range were taken, top weight fish were 5¼, 5½, and 8 lbs. Best action was on the flood tide at Horton's Point.

Porgies were pretty good on rental skiffs from **Mattituck Fishing Station**

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FLUKE
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FLUKE

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OPEN BOAT 8:00 A.M.
PRIME TIME III
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33' TWIN ENGINE SPORTSFISHERMAN

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LATEST ELEC.•FULLY EQUIPED•6 PASS.LIMIT
Flounder•Fluke•Blues•Bass•Porgies
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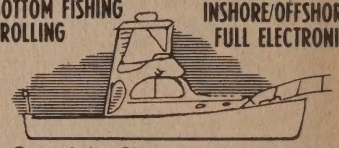
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3 Eggs, Home Fries, Toast, Sausage or Bacon - $1.79
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with good catches east of the inlet off the Beachcomber Motel and the Firing Range. Blackfish are still hot off the rocky bottom straight out of the Motel, with a good number of sea bass mixed with the catch. A 4 pound weakfish was caught by a porgy fisherman over the weekend, according to Charlie Caraftis.

While Art at **A.P. White Bait Shop** in **Greenport** still insists that everyone is rushing the fluke season, some boats are returning with good fluke catches with one catch of 57 reported from near East Marion in the Bay. Flounders are plentiful at Petty's Bight and off Gardiner's Island, with lots of blackfish at Orient Point and Gull and Plum Islands. Bluefish are scattered in the bays, and have not settled down yet. Weakfishing picked up again with the **Nancy Ann** locating about 50 on a recent charter during the day. Art suggests trying for weakfish at Conklin Point, off Mashomack Point or the Brickyard. Although most weaks are in the 5-6 lb. range, a few to 14 lbs. have been caught. Art also suggests trying "Louies Beach" near the Shelter Island Hotel on the incoming tide.

Capt. Larry Ciccotto reports a good beginning to the fluke season with 50 fluke caught in the Sound on Saturday's trip by a small group on the **Prime Time III**. Although sea robbins were pesty, he found fluke at all his regular spots between Horton's and Orient. On Sunday, dense fog prompted a drop at nearby Plum Gut where a variety of bottom fish were found. Blackfish, sea bass, porgies, etc., with fluke to 3-4 lbs. caught in the Sound later in the morning.

A charter of six lady anglers, arranged by Wanita Venable fished Petty's Bight on Saturday on the **Prowler II** with Capt. Roddy DeLisle. The group filled their buckets with flounder to 2 lbs., with Donna high hook both on flounder and blackfish. Capt. Roddy is now scheduling fluke charters with great anticipation for an outstanding season ahead.

Capt. Tony Loperfido tried the bay for **Fishalot** big fluke on Sunday with Bo, Jimmy Bogart and Harold Wotosiewicz. The trio returned with 16 nice fluke, the largest 11½ lbs. caught by Harold.

Ace Cottrel at **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** in **Southold** said that porgies are rather picky, with not too many around. Local feeling appears to be that years of winter dragging the Peconics has disrupted the bottom feeding and holding areas for these fish. Petty's Bight remains a reliable standby for flounder catches. Earlier in the week weakfish and blues showed in the middle of Southold Bay, but slowed over the weekend.

Some nice weaks were taken from Paradise Point (between buoys 12 and 14) with some fish to 10 lbs. Another weakfish hot spot was the north side of Shelter Island, off the Motel. Best bet for fluke is the Brickyard, the Greenlawns, and Bixedon Estates. Surfcasters should try Kenny's Beach (in the Sound) for fluke. Lots of bunker have shown in the bays, with a definite drop in the squid population, causing some concern regarding the early bluefish run. Ace asked me to inform you that starting this week, rental skiffs will be available from **Port of Egypt** on a daily basis. Call for a reservation.

Capt. Dan reports good fluking on the open boat **Nancy Ann II** over the weekend. Larry and William Eckart with their sons Larry and Bill, combined for a total of 50 fluke. Over 50 keepers were put aboard the boat, with only three returned because of undersize. Most fish were 2-2½ lbs. Peconic and Southold Bay was the scene of the action. On the **Nancy Ann I**, 48 weakfish were caught in the Peconic Bay on a day trip on Friday. Fish ranged from 3 to 11 pounds. While on Saturday a charter arranged by Tom Kelly connected with 45 weaks from 3 to 11¼ lbs.

Capt. Porter's **Brand X** has been porgy fishing, meeting with varing results. However, action is expected to pick up considerably. Night weakfishing and bluefishing trips have produced better since the full moon. Note that night trips are now scheduled for Friday and Saturday's only.

Surf REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

There was plenty to get excited about concerning the Long Island surf scene this past week. Big stripers in numbers we haven't seen in June for quite a few years, gave evidence that we indeed have a spring run underway. What's more, impressive size stripers were taken from wide spread areas including the North Shore, East End and South Shore Inlets. The fish actually reported are only a token representation of the fish actually landed as a good number of surfmen continue to play the secretive game. For those less intent on stripers, the bluefish action has been steady at South Shore Inlets and along a vast expanse of North Shore beachfront. Weakfish remain the only disappointment with scattered reports of an occasional fish being taken.

Bill Miller, hard working director of U.M.S. and active LIBBA member, realized every surfman's dream last

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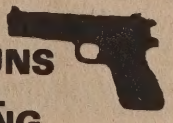

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Wednesday night while tossing a homemade popper into the Fire Island surf. Bill's plug was engulfed by a cow that bottomed out a 50 pound scale. The big striper was released alive after the weighing ceremony. Hats off to Bill for his accomplishment and a further pat on the back for releasing his trophy.

Other trophy stripers fell to casters working the Fire Island Shore this past week. Harry Bowman dragged a 44 pound cow to the scales of **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon**. He told Tom Healy of the shop that he took the big striper on a Hopkins. Scott Leonard used plugs to take stripers of 35¾ and 37 pounds from Fire Island Inlet on Saturday night. These fish were also weighed at Augie's. Scott added a 12.1 pound bluefish to his night's work.

We heard from several reliable sources that Steve Petri, Jr. clicked with a 42 pound striper taken from the same Fire Island area Sunday morning while another caster who prefered anonymity racked up a 48 pound cow. Several other stripers in the 15-20 pound range were reported taken in the inlet during the course of the week. The source of all the big bass activity are large schools of bunker which have been moving back and forth along area beaches.

A couple of impressive weakfish have been taken from the Fire Island area as well. Don Winsjansen weighed a 10½ pound tiderunner at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**. He took the fish Saturday night opposite Field 2-Robert Moses. On Friday, Bill Davi culled a 12.10 pound weak from the swirling currents around the Sore Thumb. He weighed his big weak at **Captree Bait and Tackle**. Noel Kappauf of Captree B & T reminded that he has live eels in stock.

Jones Inlet produced a 43¼ pound striper for Jack Szabo of Hicksville on Monday morning (6/10/85). Jack, who weighed the fish at **Causeway Bait and Tackle** in **Wantagh** reported taking the fish on a Hopkins at Jones Beach, West End 2.

Even the North Shore produced some impressive cows this week. Russ Olsen worked a 5½ inch Rebel along the Cold Spring Harbor causeway last Tuesday night. A 41½ pound striper found the small swimmer to her liking. George Valentine of **Four Winds Tackle** in **Huntington**, who weighed the fish said that he knew of several stripers in the 20 pound class taken at Caumsett as well as other area beaches. Bluefish have been active mornings and evenings in these same areas stretching from Caumsett to Sunken Meadow. After dark, quite a few short stripers in the 19-22" size range falling to Needlefish, Hellcats, eel worms and Rebels.

Mel Fleishman at **Greenlawn Sports** relayed word of another North Shore cow taken from the Northport shore by Nick Samaritano. Dick used a black Trifin Eelworm to take a 39¼ pound striper. The bass kept Nick

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busy for 20 minutes. He is having his trophy mounted.

While there were no big stripers in the picture at Sunken Meadow, there has been steady action with bluefish up to 5 pounds. This was the case both Saturday and Sunday evenings. Sunday night saw a good mix of bluefish, bass (from shorts up to 12 pounds), and weakfish to 6 pounds taken on Hellcats, Redfins, Rebels and droppers. Best bluefish action has been on popping plugs before dark.

Stan Hentschel of **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** reported blues in the 2-4 pound range all over local beaches with an occasional 7-8 pounder mixed in. Lots of school bass on night tides with a fair number of keepers mixing in towards the latter part of the week. Redfins and feather teasers working best in this area according to Stan.

To the west, John at **Glen Cove Sports Shop** said that since Friday there has been plenty of bluefish action along local beaches with both poppers and tins accounting for the fish.

Montauk has been blessed with a good population of stripers in mixed sizes. A fair showing of medium size fish (10-20 pounds) were taken from the Point over the weekend. On Thursday night Ronnie Popp drilled a 26 pound striper from beneath the Lighthouse on a green Musso Superstrike Needlefish. The fish must have been relatively thick that night as even I managed a 46.8 pound cow. It, along with two smaller fish also fell for green Musso needles.

According to Mike Kaland, PR man for Striper Surf Club, several club members joined in 'Montauk Night' at the Point on Saturday. The object of this Club oriented trip is to familiarize new members with fishing the Point's

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Freshwater REPORT
with Tom Schlichter

A solid week for freshwater fishermen. Largemouth bass came into their own with several large fish reported from both ends of the Island. Fishing for the bigmouths should continue to improve as the females move off the beds over the course of the next week or so. Trout fishing continues excellent in the Connetquot and Nissequogue Rivers and the tidal creeks off Patchogue, fair every place else. Panfishing, with the exception of crappies, has been productive in most lakes and catfish action has improved.

Charlie Beckman, of **Beckman's Bait and Tackle Shop** in **Lynbrook**, had the pleasure of weighing in the largest bass to come to our attention so far this young season. Taken last Saturday from Hempstead Lake by Ted Gunther of Lynbrook, this lunker weighed in at 7 lbs. and fell for a

Eight-year-old John Onis with his first brook trout. The 17 incher was caught at Caleb Smith State Park in Smithtown. Subscriber photo.

waters. New member John Williams must have been a good student as he led all members with a 31½ pound striper. Leif Gobel clicked with a 19.4 pounder, Tom Incantalupo added a 14.8 pound fish while Joe Sarantonio took a 12 pounder. Darters and needlefish plugs took the fish. Anyone interested in joining this hard fishing striper oriented club can give Mike a call at 516-868-7402 (evenings).

Another reliable source who requested anonymity reported some big bass action on the east side of Shinnecock Inlet Thursday PM.

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1979 GALAXY 19' 85 hp Mercury, 18 gal. built-in fuel tank. Seats 6 people. 4-wheel trailer. Very good cond. $3950. Days: 516-354-0654.

AQUASPORT 22 Family Fisherman, cuddy cabin, 1983 200 hp Merc. Used 1 season. VHF, CB, Loran C, graph recorder. Dual batt., SW washdown & custom live bait well. Trailer, power winch. Serious fishing boat. Must sell. $8500. Days: 516-628-8686. Nights: 516-628-3154.

MAKO '78 20', Johnson '81 115, PTT. Shoreline galv. EZ Load trailer 81; 3600 lb. cap. w/brakes & power winch. Full canvas, console, seat & rod rack covers. Mint cond. $9800. 516-689-9344 bet. 5-9PM.

1985 15 hp Johnson; new 1984 galv. trailer; 1981 14' Starcraft aluminum boat. Many, many extras. $2750 negotiable. 3-8PM: 516-621-7872.

1984 MERCURY 115 hp PT&T. Tanks, controls, 15 hrs. Excl. AM or late Eves: 516-727-4072.

1976 20' WELLCRAFT, cuddy, 1976 Evinrude PT/T; 1976 Shoreline EZ Loader trailer. Power winch, depth recorder, CB, VHF, outriggers. Too many extras to mention. Excl. cond. $7000. Wknds: 516-929-8333. Wkdy nites: 718-478-3542.

45 Wooden Hull, forward deck. Must be seen. Price open. 516-421-4748.

23 LANCER 280 Volvo OD. Low hrs. on rebuilt V8. New chrome & interior. Sacrifice. 516-747-2392.

CHAPARRAL 234 Fisherman, 235 hp Evinrude. Loaded. Priced to sell. BOFILL MARINE, 516-283-6736.

DUSKY 26' wide body 1983 Twin 235s. Tuna door, T-Top, encl. V-900 color, 1350 WL, Loran, digital, Dytek. Life raft, winch, full chair, tackle locker 400 gal. fuel. Bristol cond. $42,000. 203-434-8629.

24' SLICKCRAFT 1975 Cuddy Fisherman. 888 Mercruiser. Low engine hrs. Fast, economical. Rigged for fishing. Incl. electronics & Porta-Potti. Excl. cond. Eves: 516-489-4923.

Only $2495 buys this great famikly fishing & fun fiberglass boat. '73 Renken, 18 + ft. w/70 hp Evinrude in great shape w/SS Prop & many other extras. In water in Massapequa. Fully equip. & ready to go. Nothing else to buy but the gas. Call Stan, days: 718-738-2002.

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30' ULRICHSEN Sportfisherman, 250 hp Chrysler, FWC, Flybridge, VHF, depthfinder. In water; to go. Bklyn. 718-DE 9-3054.

MERCURY

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4.5-$590; 18 electric-$1200; 35 electric-$1400; 150-$3795; 200-$4295. FOB/H WI. We ship anywhere. ELECTRA MARINE, 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563. 516-599-3003.

STARCRAFT 22' Deep V cuddy, 140 hp OMC, custom canvas, electronics. Brokerage. Call for details. BOFILL MARINE, 516-283-6736.

27' SPORTCRAFT Hdtop 1973 245 hp OMC. New block '81. Hynautic, T/T, canvas, frame & cover. $7500. Bay Shore. 661-9363.

APOLLO 1977 24' Formula hull, 175 hp OMC I/O, SS Prop. Low hrs. CB, DF, AM/FM stereo. Compass, outriggers, remote spot, electric anchor. Dual batt. Full canvas. In water; will Demo. $9800. 516-764-3834 Eves.

1982 Mariner 15 hp Long shaft w/6 gal. tank. Like new cond. $950. 516-473-7391.

Chaparral

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1969 9.5 hp Johnson Outboard. Used 5 hrs. $450. 516-489-8734.

1984 SEA DEVIL 20' 470 Merc. FWC, canvas, head, VHF, depth sounder, paper recorder, washdown, etc. 71 hrs. $16,500/take over payments. 281-8865.

671s GM Diesel engines. Matched pair. Shipyard rebuilt. $13,000. 516-421-4748.

CHAPARRAL 204V cuddy '82 175 Evinrude O/B, DF, CB, Porta-Potti. Full Bimini encl., mooring cover. Extras. '82 Shoreline trlr w/new power winch. Excl. $11,500 Negotiable. Eves: 516-681-2779.

Merc Cruiser 225 hp w/TRS outdrive. Complete pkg. $1500. Good cond. 516-661-9272.

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38' 1979 BERTRAM Flybridge convertible, lower steering sta., 555 Cummings, 875 hrs; 7.5 KW Onan radar, VHF, depth, log, fish finder. Never fished. Good cruising boat. Not rigged for fishing. $150,000. Call Al Lunt, 305-832-5868.

20' MAKO 1978 center console, Mercury O/B 1982, 175 hp. Apelco VHF, Mecca recorder, Bimini. Other custom features. $6000 firm. Eves: 718-237-9612.

BOSTON WHALER 1976. Gopod cond. 1977 115 hp Mercury O/B, 1984 power head; mahogany custom stand-up console. Trailer, power winch, compass, pole holder. Many extras. Priced to sell. $6000 Firm. Bill, 718-229-6814.

28' STEVEN'S Wood Skiff, 110 hp Diesel. Strong, dependable & economical to run. $4200. 516-785-2881.

23' FIBERGLASS Fishing Boat. 6 cyl. Merc I/O engine. Good cond. Navy top, VHF, DF, CB, flare gun, 2 batt. Anchor, swim platforms. $4000. 661-3575.

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Continued On Next Page

1985 Grady White 204C new, 83 150 hp. Demo, warranty-$15,965
1983 Grady White 206 Islander, 2.6 ltr sea drive 20' 4". Loaded0 lo hrs.-$250,500
1980 Grady White 204 fisherman, 20' 4" 150 hp John., galv. trailer. Loaded-$12,950
1982 Grady White Bimini, 200 hp Johnson 22' loaded, fast boat-$19,500
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1982 Sportcraft c/console, 1984 Johnson 70 hp T/T. ext. available warranty-$7800
1983 Dell Quey dory 13', 83-35 hp Johnson, custom canvas, swivel seats-$4300
1982 Renkin 21' cuddy OMC 140 hp I/O. Sleeps 3-$10,500
1983 Dell Quey, new. 11', console. Boat only-$1770
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1974 21' BOSTON WHALER Revenge, 1983 140 hp Evinrude. CG equip. Electronics; & more. 914-698-6749.

SEAWAY BOATS 17-26 center & cuddy. Commercial & Pleasure O/B I/O Inboard. VILLAGE MARINE, 516-298-5800.

28' 1979 80 Bertram S/F. Mint cond. 700 hrs. Radar, VHF, Loran, white line recorder, outriggers, fishing chair. Many extras. Must see. 201-933-8076 After 6PM. 516-725-1446 Wknds.

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26' GROVER BUILT 1979 120 hp Ford Lehman diesel. Low hrs. Loaded. Very economical to operate. Set up for long range fishing & cruising. 516-354-2674.

1981 PRIVATEER 24' 175 hp Evinrude, 100 hrs. Cuddy cabin, white line recorder, out/downriggers, VHF, CB. Prof. maintained. 516-928-1643.

CHAPARRAL, new 224 Sportfisherman. Immediate delivery. DAVE BOFILL MARINE, Inc., 516-283-6736.

'77 15' TRI HULL Bowrider, 1978 55 hp Johnson elec. & 78 trailer, new in 78. Full canvas & side curtains, bilge pump, ladder, spare tire, battery & box. July '84. Water pump, Aug. 84. After 6:30PM: 826-3484.

INTL 16' w/1979 85 hp Evinrude. Full canvas, trailer, CB, DF, VHF. $3100. 516-586-4601.

1977 26' STAMAS S.F. 270 Crusader. New 83 FWC, elec. anchor. Mecca recorder, CB, VHF, Hailer, shorePower, washdown, dual batt. Loaded. 516-727-4810.

STRIKER Canyon Runner 34', 1975, T555s. Etta Mae has all electronics & fishing equip. Days: 516-349-1700. Eves: 516-826-8370.

1983 MAINE COASTER Sportfisherman 35', twin Volvo diesels. Compl. electronics; gin pole, fighting chair. Canyon equip. Low hrs. Immaculate. $92,000. Eves after 7PM: 914-769-7107.

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TOPAZ 28 S/F, TMD 40-A Volvos, 550 hrs. Full electrinics. Too much to list. Canyon Ready. T-Key oper. No Brokers. 201-768-0945/568-7993.

23' SEA CRAFT '77 Cuddy, 233 Merc., Imron '84, VHF, CB, Lee O.R.s, DR, Meico, Dytek, Datamarine, Si-Tex Rec. Galv. trlr + P/Winch. Loaded. Mint. Days: 914-761-0150. Eves: 914-762-3051. Wknd: 516-728-2712. $18,500.

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15' PERFORMER center console, 40 hp Elec. start Mariner. $3999. BAYHEAD BOAT SALES, Rosedale, 718-525-5724.

44' CHARTER BOAT. Certified 36 passengers, G71 diesel, flush deck. Hull inspection April '85. $12,500. Days: 215-688-3293. Nites & Wknds: 516-599-1232.

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36' CUSTOM Aluminum Gillnetter Double Ender, hard chined, tunnel drive. New rebuilt 6 cyl. diesel. Must sell. $12,500. 516-567-4104/668-3509.

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1980 17' McKee CC 85 hp Evinrude. Like new-$5895
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1970 16' MFG 40 hp Johnson-$950
1974 19' Steury 85 hp Mercury. Full covers, cuddy cabin-$3800
1981 21' Starcraft, 1973 85 hp Evinrude-$4500
1976 17' Aquasport CC, 1982 hp Evinrude, Cox trailer-$5500
1976 16' Imperial 50 hp Evinrude, new mooring cover-$2750
1980 21' Sunlounger, Merc. Cruiser. Loaded. Trim tabs, 2 full covers, extras-$12,500
Many more to choose from.
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20' WELLCRAFT 1979, 78 140 hp & 8 hp Mariner aux. Full canvas; VHF, CB, depth recorder. CG equip. Very clean. Asking $7800 negotiable. AERO MARINE, 516-431-5061.

140 hp Chrysler 1982 O/B. Standard long shaft, T&T. Controls & cables. $2500. AERO MARINE, 516-431-5061.

16' FIBERGLASS Bay/Bass Boat. Built 1982. Airex construction, foam flotation, 4 swivel seats, storage underneath. Rod holders, fire ext., jackets, 40 hp Evinrude elec. start generator, gas tanks & trailer. $2200. Days: 516-535-2984. Eves: 516-364-2553.

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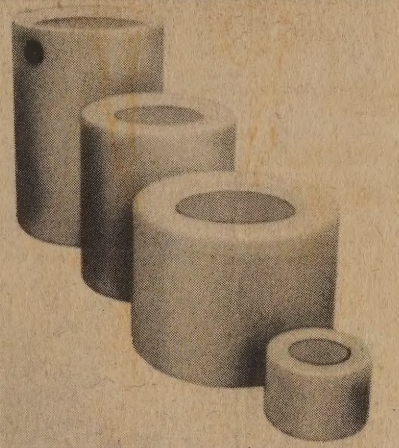

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